Kosovars were seeking sanctu-

ary in the high valleys of

In what aid agencies de-

massacres and ethnic cleans-

ing on a scale not seen since the

Serbs swept through Bosnia in

reported to be systematically

exterminating the whole of the

province's intelligentsia, in-

Nato insisted air strikes were working and warplanes

Exhausted Kosovar refugees in the northern Albanian town of Kukes yesterday after being ejected from their homes by Serbian forces HUNDREDS OF thousands of BY EMMA DALY in Morini

Albania last night, saying the yesterday took off from bases Serbs were killing everyone night of strikes on military tarwho refused to leave their home. scribe as the biggest forced movement of peoples in Europe makov, is making his way to Belsince the Second World War, the refugees hrought reports of

Serbian death squads were dren were dry-eyed, numbed by fatigue and fear. It was the

time even to take their children." The people of the border village of Trnje said they had lost 37 of their number when they fled Serbs firing machineguns. "We split into two groups to escape from them," said Mr

in Italy and Britain for a sixth gets in Kosovo, Serbia and Montenegro. The Russian Prime Minister, Yevgeny Pri-

grade today for talks with President Slobodan Milosevic. At the border crossing in Morini refugees flooded into Albania on tractors, in old cars and on foot, carrying babies and dragging children. The chil-

adults who wept openly. "At 5am they entered the village without warning," said Hairula Kabashi, holding the hand of his daughter, Drenusha. "People were sleeping but soon started running. Some didn't have

**Further reports** 

**■** Euro plummets

Leading article

Robert Fisk Reporting the war

at the village school. "They started shooting at the group heading for [the village of Mamusa). They killed about 37 people, including two of my fellow teachers and three of my

Further along the road, we met Jeton Vranorski, an English teacher from the same school. "We walked all through the night - they just wanted to push us out," Mr Vrznerski

An old man lit a small fire, warming his stockinged feet. Beside him women lay asleep on the ground, wrapped in blan-

INSIDE

pages 2-5

■ Blair statement to MPs Parliament, page 8 Business, page 13

Review, page 3 Review, page 5 Review, page 13

Kabashi, a geography teacher kets. All along the road, families sat on the grass, waiting for transport to the Albanian town

THE INDEPENDENT

THE INFORMATION DAILY

Numbed by fatigue and fear, the

refugees siee Serb death squads

The refugees say the Serbs are systematically wiping out the Afbanians of Kosovo using the terrifying methods boned in Bosnia, where hundreds of thousands of Muslims were efficiently terrorised and ejected

from their homes or killed. The Yugoslav authorities are dismissing the refugees' stories as fabrication, as they did in the past in Bosnia. But there is a consistency to the tales.

The exodus from Kosovo and took everything they

Sunday and continued yesterday. By 8am, 60,000 people had crossed the border at Morini. In the distance we could see the Serb soldiers, strolling across a field, guarded by armoured

vehicles. Columns of smoke rose in the distance, signs of the orgy of destruction in Kosovo. Near the border post burned another small fire. It contained documents stolen from the refugees, identity cards and car papers. The refugees were even forced to remove their car

The Serbian ethnic cleansing operation has now moved from the gutted border villages to the cities of Djakovica, Prizren and

Serb soldiers, accompanied by police and armed Serb civilians, drove into the town at about that the population of Pristina, 10am on Sunday. "By noon we a city of 300,000, will be next.
were on trucks," said Valdet One refugee woman recalled Shoshi. "The whole town is clean now. They came into town, broke into apartments

Santiago Lyon/AP

were shooting inside, spraying the walls with bullets." Serbs looted local husinesses and burnt Albanian shops and houses, said Mr Shoshi.

UNRIVALLED CINEMA, THEATRE & ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS

Many others had the same story of an organised campaign to cleanse Kosovo of Albanians. In each town and village the soldiers arrived, ordered people to leave immediately and threatened death to any resisters.

"Three old people were killed, one woman and two men, because they did not want to leave," said Florija Rexhepi, from the village of Babaj Boks. She said they fled to the hills when Nato air strikes started. "We were in the mountains for three days - they burned our bouses," she said. "But we Refugees from Pec said that went to Djakovica to hand our-

selves over to the Serbs." Last night there were reports

One refugee woman recalled the jeers of the Serbs. "They said to us, 'Now Nato is going to help you. Go to America -Clinton will help you too. Tell them this place is Serbia'."

#### I may never see them again' From Pristina, an and anti-aircraft fire responded from the ground, shooting eyewitness tells a

'I kiss my father

and my mother.

into the sky, On the streets I could hear lots of Serbs shouting – cursing Albanians, Nato, America, Britain, Clinton, Blair Muslims, Turks.

At about 10pm I heard sounds of boots running up the stairs of the building where I stayed last night. (I haven't slept at home for a week.) I heard the sound of someone knocking on a neighbouring door "That's it," I thought, "they've arrived." Still, I was

amazed how calm I felt. I have always been scared whenever I see a policeman or anyone carrying a gun (though nowadays there's a difference: Serbs only carry big machineguns). But this time I was cool. The worst thing they can do is kill me, so nothing can surprise me," I thought. I made a deciidentity or my mother tongue,"

Albanian, of course. Then I heard someone running again, but now the sound was heading downstairs. No one knocked on my door but I just had to know what was going on, so I looked outside. It was a man I had spoken to before. I had met him on the street a week ago, and we exchanged a few words about the political situation (what else?). We were speaking in Serbian, and he seemed very open-

harrowing tale of fear on the streets

quite glad, as I didn't want to condemn a whole nation because of the government's politics. There are decent people among them, I thought. Until that night.

Now he was wearing a strange uniform, neither police nor military, carrying weapons and heading out into the night. The knock came from his "friend" who had come in a rush, and in the same clothes and gear, to get him. Off they went, no doubt to try to kill an Albanian or to burn a house.

Next day I would have to find another place to sleep: I wouldn't want to run into him again now. Until a few days ago, I felt sorry for the people suffering in the villages. But I don't any more. Now I too am fighting for survival. I try to stay alive but it's difficult. This morning I almost collapsed out of breath while running towards my parents' house to see if they are still OK. There's no phone, so every time I go to spend a night somewhere else, I kiss my father and my mother. I fear I won't see them again.

Continued on page 2



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# Salmond: Stop 'misguided' air strikes

ALEX SALMOND, the Scottish National Party leader, prompted government outrage at Westminster yesterday when he became the first British party leader to attack the legality of the bombings and com-

pared them to the London Blitz. The controversy erupted over Mr Salmond's televised broadcast on the Nato air

BY COLIN BROWN AND PAUL WAUGH

the West to abandon the "misguided" policy. The broadcast, which was screened in Scotland last night, caused the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, to claim that the SNP leader would be "the toast of Belgrade".

"Few people are in any doubt that President Milosevic bears both worse.

the prime responsibility for the human tragedy in the Balkans," Mr Salmond said. "However, if we are to sanction intervention in Serbia then the policy must be capable of achieving two things. It must be capable of weakening Milosevic, and helping Kosovo." Mr Salmond said a bombing campaign would achieve neither and could make

which has been blitzed this century, the reaction has been to steel the resolve of the civilian population," he said. "This is what happened in London in the Second World War. It is also what happened in Clydebank." However, Mr Cook said Mr.

London and Clydebank by the Luftwaffe in the Second World War will be deeply offensive not only to service personnel and their families but also to millions of British citizens," he said. "He fails to see the clear distinction between the resolve of a democ-Salmond had shown himself racy defending itself against "simply unfit to lead". "To comdictatorship and a dictatorship pare the effect of the Allied acengaged in ethnic cleansing."



Salmond: Against bombing

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

#### INSIDE THIS SECTION

strikes in which he called on

Goodwill to Ulster President Nelson Mandela gave support to politicians in peace talks Home P6

Hanratty appeal Hanging case referred back to Court of Appeal Home P7

US custody death Trial opened of New York police for torture and death of Haitian Foreign P11

Lawiess Gaza Palestine security services rule by fear Foreign P13 Sport P24 HOME 2-10, FOREIGN 11-12, BUSINESS 13-19, SPORT 19-24, CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 24, WEATHER

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INSIDE THE REVIEW David Aaronovitch Energy tax row While the rich get Biggest energy users are seeking exemption richer, it's still the poor from climate change tax that get the hiame

Anne McElvoy Courtney Walsh took five I, too, was caught wickets against Australia in a seedy sauna Comment P4

Comment P3

Catnapped! The mystery of Remy, disappearing star of the cat-food commercials

Features P8 Don't ask why Tom Lubbock on Richard Deacon Visual arts P10





... and trust us, we know about damp

"Serbian paramilitaries are

killing everybody who

refuses to leave. Pec is

now ethnically cleansed."

"In peacetime if you get it | "It is not going to be quick

wrong, you get a hard

wrong, you die."

time. Here, if you get it

British Harrier pilot

and easy. This is not

Saddam's conscript army

THE INDEPENDENT Tuesday 30 March 1999

# The Vera Lynn of Belgrade woos crowds

Adam Basha, Kosovar | Russian defence minister

| "Nato's aggression could

lead to a new Vietnam.

Igor Sergeyev,

now in Europe."

#### SERBIAN MORALE

WHEN CECA began to sing, the crowd around me swayed with emotion. They cried. They danced with three fingers in the air, the Serb sign of eternal victory in tribute to the beautiful young woman oo the podium.

Ceca's hair was long and brown and she flounced in her perfectly cut white trouser suit from one end of the stage to the other, her pearls flashing in the are lamps. And round us in Repubbic Square, her husband's loyal "Tigers" - massive, beefy men with short-cropped hair dressed in dark blue uniforms - stood gazing impassively at the crowd. These Tigers, it need hardly be said, are Arkan's boys.

For Ceca, the 24-year-old pop-idol Svetlana Raznatovic, is the third wife of Zeljko Raznatovic, hetter known as Arkan and reintroduced to the British public on Sunday by George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence, as "that ohnoxious thug".

The football club owner indicted for war crimes in Bosnia was among the crowd of 5.000 around us - he never leaves his wife - hut Ceca's presence was what the Serbs of Belgrade sought. Wheo she raised the microphooe to her lips, the crowd fell silent.

Znam za jedan Grad Zove se Beograd... she

I know a town, its name is Belgrade.



FISK

IN BELGRADE

But he is a cheat – he lies.

Then, as her voice dipped with emotion, Ceca ran her left hand hack through her curls of brown hair and the crowd joined in the words of her

Once I kissed your lips and they tasted of poison. I did it just once and you betrayed me...

This was too much for the crowd. They shouted their delight, punching their three fingered salute into the sky. Atop the hronze statue of old Prince Mihaelo Ohranovic, a young man in hlue denims set light to a German flag and let the orange, red and black hanner float to the ground, cowled in flames. There were plenty of young men in the crowd to approve of such a gesture, perhaps the very same gentlemen

who'd trashed their way

centre and the Air France office just down the pedestrian precinct from the square. Through the crowd went

through the French cultural

several women, handing out pieces of paper marked as targets, each with a question mark in the bullseye. They all wore them on their lapels. "Target?" it said at the bottom. Were they to be Nato's targets?
The terrible stories coming

out of Kosovo had no place in this square - indeed, in Belgrade - yesterday. Atrocities against Albanians were more than incredible - they were unreal, mythical, part of the great Western plot that had driven the enraged young men to smash up the American Cultural Centre as well and smear its walls with swastikas.

No, this was a moment for Serb pride as Ceca, the mother of Arkan's latest two children and the manager of his football team - Arkan having a little problem with travelling abroad began her second song. Her voice, magnified to impossible decibels, haunted the rooftops and flaking walls of Belgrade.

My friends have gone and I am here," she sang, The North Star doesn't shine

any more And she used to be my companion. It's St George's Day

And I'm not with the one There is nothing new, of

war. And if Ceca is to be Serbia's

Vera Lynn, so he it.

But Serbia's forces' sweetheart is a heroine to the lads in blue who stood around us and paraded hehind her on the stage, the very Tigers who made Arkan's name a hyword for fear along the Drina Valley, the shock troops of "ethnic cleansing" in Slavonia in 1991 before moving oo to Bosnia. Are they heading, then, for Kosovo as Mr Robertson claims? Not

ccording to Arkan. The strange mixture of joy, Chatting to Serb journalists forgetfulness and fearful according to Arkan.

in a Belgrade nightclub on Sunday night, he insisted that he would only take his Tigers down to fight the British if they crossed over from Macedonia. He said it with a smile - though not as broad a smile as Ceca

gave us yesterday. Children were hoisted ooto fathers' shoulders to watch swooned on the Ohranovic Serbia's most popular rock singer, while another young woman wandered the crowd with a poster claiming: "I am not Monica Lewinsky".

abnegation - for as usual only the Serbs are victims of this war - brought ahout some odd scenes. Take the little yellow car which drew out of the vegetable market a few minutes later with two cardboard antiaircraft guns taped to the roof.

Or the young man who statue while holding Vojislav Seself's hlack flag with its skull emblem. For Seselj's "White Eagles" were also represented yesterday, those whose claws proved every hit as cruel as Arkan's Tigers along the valley

of the Drina, "In God we Trust. in King and Fatherland," it said below the skull. Mihailo Obranovie would have enjoyed that. When Milutin Garasanin annoyed him in the 1840s, Mihaelo was happy to see Milutin beheaded and his head impaled on a spike. These may be longforgotten conflicts outside the Balkans: hut not for the Serbs.

On the corner of the square, someone had stuck up an obituary notice on the wall although close inspection showed its political content. Normally, the name of the

deceased appears on a white sheet of paper with a cross at the top. On this particular document, the name was President Bill Clinton's and the symbol above his head was a swastika. As usual, the Serbs were fighting their dark past, in conflict with Nazis, Turks, the West,

My friends have gone and I betrayal... Ceca sang.

No wonder the Serhs in



Svetlana Raznatovic, who delighted crowds at a weekend rock concert, with her husband Arkan in Belgrade yesterday

anyone who dared betray them.

am such poison and so much

# 'God knows when we'll meet up again, and who will be absent'

#### FROM PAGE 1

Yesterday I passed by my doesn't look like my café at all. of us are missing? tavourne cale, where I used to meet my friends every day.

For years we met and chatted there. We were all so close that if you missed one after- think about this cafe now, but noon, everyone noticed and not for me. wondered where you'd gooe.

Now it is destroyed, even the gather again, and who will be one can move. For now, only window. Now only ashes requickly day goes now! My aircraft guns, machine guns, inside. Everyone stays in the chairs were taken, and it absent at that time. How many names go through my mind. I main. At least something of friends used to call me and shouting. inside live policemen were get ting drunk on whisky in the mid-

dle of the mess they had made. Maybe it seems ridiculous to

God knows wheo we will

There is no way to find out. The telephone lines from Albanian houses have been cut, and the whole town is sliced into sections by police and armed Serb civilians.

No one can communicate, no

cant

Still, for the first time last night I felt happy. The MUP [police] building in

the centre of town was completely destroyed by Nato jets.
I watched it hurning from the

try to remember faces but I "theirs" has been destroyed. "Nighthawk", because I adored The big mushroom that lit the last there was something good in all this tragedy.

LIGHTING UP

the night hut now I hate it. I will shot comes from the direction night sky looked so beautiful. At have to leave my home soon, to of my parents' house, and it fills Balkan Crisis Reports of the Inhide in some other place. To

avoid any more knocks. I will take my hlanket, stay awake the whole night, and listen to the sounds of planes, anti-

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

Sun Rain hrs mm

Soundest: Poole 11.0 hrs For 24hrs to 6pm Sunday

me with fear.

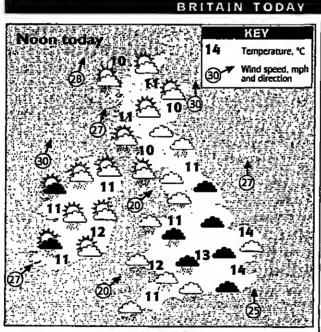
will just show that someone is tect from reprisals.

This dispatch is from the The electricity shuts off portingm, which can be found about 6pm and it is not clever at <ucuw.iwpr.net>. The auto light a candle, hecause that thor's name is withheld to pro-



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FORECAST

h, the south-east may stay dry with a fixthe hazy surshine.

I, SE England, E Augua: A lot of cloud but mostly dry and mild with worse than a little drizzle; perhaps some hazy sunshine towards the blustery southerly wind. Max temp 13-16C (55-61F).

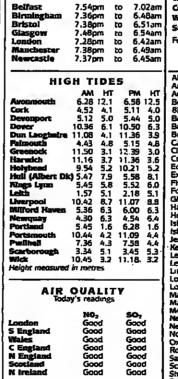
SW & NW England, Lake Dist, isle of Man, Wales: Dull with occasional rain and drizzle this morning but slowly brightening up this afternoon. A gusty south to south-westerly wind. Max temp 11-13C [52-55F).

and, Glasgow, SW Scotland: Overnight rain will clear to leave sunshine owers. A gusty south to south-westerly wind. Max temp 10-12C [50-54F] MW Scotland, W Islas: Sunny spells and squally showers. A strong south to south-westerly wind. Max temp 9-12C (48-54F). NE Scotland, N Isles: Becoming mostly dry and bright with only isolated showers. A strong southerly wind. Max temp 9-12C [48-54F].

Most places will be bright and mild tomorrow with sunny spells and just the odd shower but a belt of rain is illedy to affect south-east England and East Anglia. Wednesday will be very mild but unsetted with occasional showery rain.

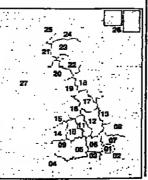
London: A12 Green Man Roundabout,
Leytonstone, Major roadworks on new
M11 link road. Until 31st December.
Bristol: M5 J18-19, Major Roadworks o
Avonnouth Bridge, Until 23rd June 2001.
Warwickshire: M42 Between J10 Tamwort
services and J8 Sutton Coddield, Roadworks
and contraflow. Until 23rd April.
South Yorkshire: M1 Between J34 Tirsley
Vladuct (A6109) 8 J34 Tirsley Vladuct
(A6178) Sheffield. Carriageway is reduced
to two lanes southbound. Until 21st
November 2000.
Glougestershire: A40 Langdown

VEL
Cheltenham. Closed due to roadworks inbound. Diversions in place. Until 1st June. Co.Antrim: Al Kingsway, Ounmurray. Roadworks, various lane restrictions. Until 1st August.
Derbystsire: A6 Belween Derby Southern Bypess (A50) and Shardlow Road round-about. East of Alvaston. Contraflow for work on new A50. Until 1sth October.
AA Roadwartch: Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association. Calls charged at 50p per min (Inc VAT).



SUN & MOON

WEATHERLINE For the latest forecasts dial **0091 5009** followed by the two digits for your area Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (Inc VAT)

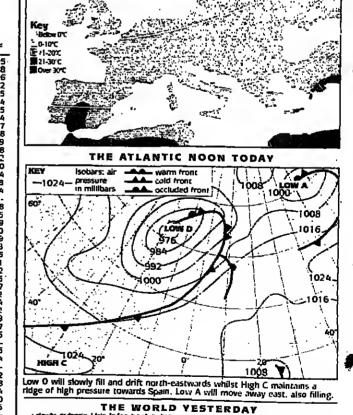


RAIN OR SHINE... ONE SWALLOW might make a

summer after all, according to researchers who believe the migration habits of the birds have altered because of changes in the world's climate. Data gathered by the Ir.-ti-

tute of Terrestrial Ecology (ITE) show that swallows are arriving a week earlier than they did 20 years ago

This year the ITE will he monitoring the thousands of swallows expected in British skies early next month.



THE WORLD

EUROPE NOON TODAY

Lost year

- 1.7 ± 1.300 (0)

ine and

7-15-6 56 6

\* \*\* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## be absent



#### PRISTINA KILLINGS

IT SEEMS like anarchy but is nothing of the kind.

Amid the burning wreckage and smashed Albanian shopfronts of the Kosovo capital, Pristina, Serbian police and other death squads were reported yesterday to be going from house to house on a mission to systematically murder the intelligentsia in Kosovo.

Direct reports from what is turning into a city of death were hard to substantiate, now that the Yugoslav authorities have expelled virtually all foreigners from the province.

But the diminishing number of reports reaching the outside world by e-mail and by the few telephone lines still working from the city point to the planned extermination of all articulate community leaders.

One of the many victims Nato confirmed vesterday was Fehmi Agani. This was no "separatist terrorist", as the regime calls the members of the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army. Mr Agani was a member of the Kosovar delegation at the recent Rambouillet peace talks in

Ibrahim Rugova, leader of a civilian party, the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK), Like him, he was a convinced advocate of passive resistance to Serb rule, though he would often ruefully joke that applying Gandhian tactics with the

He was an old man, usually Kosovo's autonomy in 1989. I met him many times.

police. But that is what is hap-

pening all across Kosovo. Pristina. A message from the

Serbs was a tough job.

smiling, with a oiled and crinkly white hair and a weatherbeaten, peasantlike face. He was a familiar sight to any foreign journalist attending the briefings at Mr Rugova's ramshackle office in the days after Slobodan Milosevic scrapped

It is incredible to think of men of the stamp of Agani and Rugova, bookish types in their scarves and threadbare cravats and their endless cigarettes, being dragged out of their homes and murdered by the

Nato clearly believes what the Kosovars are telling them about the awful events in city, from the Kosovo Press

Fehmi Agani (centre) with fellow delegates at the Rambouillet talks. Agani, who advocated passive resistance to Serb rule, was killed in Pristina on Sunday known death toll without Baton Haxiu, was also execut- The bodies were found in the this may have been Serbian "Fehmi Agani, vice-president of the Democratic League of Kosovo. Executed in Pristi-

"Alush Gashi, adviser to Ibrahim Rugova, and a wellknown human rights activist. Executed by the Serbian police in Pristing Din Mehmeti, prominent

na by the Serbian police.

elaboration.

Albanian poet, Executed by the Serbian police in Pristina. "The Albanian intelligentsia is being murdered in the capital of Kosovo by the Serbian

police," the report concluded. The Serbian police are executing prominent intellectuals in Pristina. They are going from door to door, rounding them up and murdering them one by one."

The editor of the main Kos-Agency, listed yesterday's ovo newspaper, Koha Ditore,

ed yesterday, Kosovar sources said. His newspaper had been a young, vital operation, everyone's fantasy of what a newspaper onght to he like, all shouting, doors banging and phones ringing. Now it is a bullet-ridden, silent place and

The question is whether Mr Haxin's team of young journalists have all met the

the editor is reported to be

At a Nato briefing, Air Commodore David Wilby said Mr Agani was murdered after attending the funeral in Pristina of a prominent human rights lawyer, Bajram Kelmendi. Mr Kelmendi was executed by the police, along with his 16-yearold son - youth is clearly no excuse for the Serbian firmed reports that Mr Rugova authorities - last Wednesday. may have heen killed, though

Old Mr Agani had braved the fearsomely dangerous streets of Pristina to pay his respects to his old comrade. After that he made the mistake of returning with his family to their home

He and his family had been in hiding for several days. But like many people in such situations, they succumbed to a fatal curiosity to check that things were safe. They were not. The Serbian police were waiting for Mr Agani, and are reported to have executed him

along with his entire family. The fate of the other members of the Rambouillet delegation, and of Mr Rugova himself, was uncertain yesterday. There were uncondisinformation.

The International Crisis Group (ICG), which monitors events in former Yugoslavia, said Mr Rugova was in hiding, along with Veton Surroi, one of the signatories of the Rambouillet peace deal. As a highly articulate English-speaker and former editor of the broadsheet Albanian-language newspaper Rilindja, Mr Surroi will certainly loom large on the

population. Other writers and intellectuals in hiding are Menduh Thaci, also of Koha Ditore, and Dukadjin Gorani, of the newspaper's English-language sib-

terrifying "wanted list" held

by the Serbian police and their

accomplices among the local

og, KD Times. Reports said journalists, writers and intellectuals cap-

tured by the police in the western cities of Pec and Djakovica had "disappeared" in the

same way. The extermination of Kosovo's intellectuals echoes events in the genocide in Rwanda, or even the earlier slaughter in Cambodia, where wearing glasses and having a posh voice was enough to ensure a bullet in the head. But there are comparisons

closer to Kosovo, particularly with the Bosnian war of 1992-5. There, too, the world was befuddled and confused by the reports filtering out of the east of the country in the spring of 1992, which told of Serbs going from house to house with lists that had clearly been drawn up months before by the SDS, Mr Milosevic's party in Bosnia.

The lists contained schoolteachers, memhers of nonSerbian parties, Muslim and Catholic clergymen, and anyone else who might conceivably have been considered an opinion-former and therefore dangerous to the Serb nation-

alists. Those on them were

executed on the spot. In Bosnia, too, much of this dirty work fell to civilians, to once-friendly neighbours who suddenly changed almost overnight into eager killers of their former friends.

But in Bosnia, many people could escape to the capital city, Sarajevo, which, though bombed and besieged, never fell to the Bosnian Serb army, And peyond Sarajevo lay the onethird of Bosnia that remained under the control of the Bosnian government.

The worry is that in Kosovo tonight there may be nowhere

# 'Albania in crisis as tidal wave of 100,000 floods in

#### **HUMANITARIAN AID**

THE EUROPEAN Union is putting together a package of up to £7m for the Kosovo refugee crisis as Emma Bonino, commissioner for humanitarian aid, prepares to visit the scene of the disaster.

With the tide of refugees growing by the hour, she said yesterday that the priority is to provide shelter, sanitation and food for 60,000 people who have entered Albania. But EU cash may also be used to fly some of the people from the north of Albania, where roads and infrastructure are poor, to the south of the country.

The calamity which has befallen the region is causing mounting concern in European capitals, particularly in Rome and Athens, which fear they will suffer a new influx as a result.

They are likely to push next month for a Europe-wide programme of settlement for some of the displaced to relieve the pressure on the "front-line"

In the meantime, Ms Bonino, who leaves for Albania tomorrow, said the region was confronting "the new face of humanitarian tragedy".

Latest figures suggest that anything between 50,000 and 100,000 people have flooded over the border into Albania.

"In Albania there are up to 80,000-100,000 refugees," Ms Bonino said. "It's almost impossible to count them." That dwarfs the numbers arriving in other countries, an estimated 5,000 reaching Bosnia and the same number arriving in Mon-

the Kosovo-Albanian border have to use the first part of the were being forced by Serb security police to pay about £350 to leave, as well having to give up their passports and papers. "It's almost as if their iden-

tities are being stripped", he said, adding that the move seemed designed to make any return to Kosovo more difficult. pect the crisis to worsen, with



Kosovar children are given bread after arriving in Macedonia yesterday Reuters

tributed around £42m for humanitarian aid in the region, about £15m from the European Commission and the remainder from the member-states them-

The maximum that can be released for an emergency project is £7m, although it is unclear how much of this would be spent immediately and how much retained for the medium term. However, a commission official added: "We cannot just Jamie Shea, spokesman for official added: "We cannot just sit back and do nothing. We have to use the first part of the

money very quickly." The cash will be directed to the aid agencies which are ac-tive in Albania, including the United National High Commissioner for Refugees, Oxfam

and the Red Cross.

Last year the EU con- a significant proportion of the buted around £42m for hu- estimated 200,000 displaced people in Kosovo seeking

> In London, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, amounced an inter-departmental com-mittee to study the problem and liaise with the countries di-

> rectly concerned. Among those who lost their relatives during the journey from Kosovo to Albania was Dand Bojku, who left Kukes and went back to the border yesterday in search of a blue Opel carrying his brother and nine children.

earlier when the Serbs shelled his neighbourhood.

Mr Bojku, 40, said that he had left the town of Pec 12 hours

Kosovars arriving at the border are obliged to pay \$60 (£38) Aid experts in Brussels ex- for a lift to Kukes: Yugoslav and Albanian currencies are not

accepted. Those without money have to make the journey on

The Albanian Prime Minister Pandeli Majko, appealed to the population yesterday to offer refugees a place in their homes in order to "pass to-gether these difficult days".

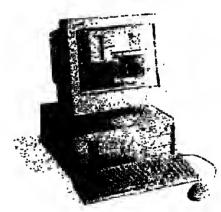
But most Albanians, especially in the north of the country, can barely feed their own families, let alone groups of

strangers. The situation in Kukes is said to be chaotic, with frightened and hungry women and chil-dren milling about in the streets, uncertain where they should go.

When a truckload of supplies arrives in the city the refugee swarm around it in search of something to eat.

KATHY MARKS AND STEPREN CASTLE

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# Belated fear - with adrenalin flowing

#### THE BRITISH PILOTS

THE RUSH of adrenalin, worries that they might make mistakes, but no fear - none, at least, until they were back in their rooms at the air base.

RAF Harrier pilots yesterday described their bombing missions over Yugoslavia. One pilot at their Italian base, which is also home to Tornado pilots, said: "In peacetime if you get it wrong you get a hard time from the rest of the formation. The difference here is that if you get it wrong, you die.

"You see something happening, you take appropriate action. It is only when you are back in your bedroom that you think about it and then there is

The pilots were speaking from that."
during a visit to the base by Another George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, who said: "The sheer professionalism, skill and commitment of these people is awe-

every night risking their lives but each other and we talk about they are doing it for a cause."

The identities of the pilots were oot released by the Ministry of Defence, but they talked graphically of what it felt to be under threat from Yugoslavia's formidable air defence system. One of the eight pilots flying

on Sunday night found he had missile and had to take evasive action. He had been worried. when he was back at the base, that he had acted correctly. One of the pilots who flew on the same mission said: "I talked to the guy about it, and he was concerned that he did the right thing. He did absolutely the right thing; he can take comfort

Another pilot, a tall, taciturn Englishman, said other pilots had supported the airman when he got back to base. "We talked about it very openly over

our feelings in the de-brief. We are a very close community."

One pilot said that looking back on a mission "you can reember every single minute. What felt like an hour is all condensed in a minute. The adrenalin is definitely flowing".

That same pilot talked about been "locked on" by a Sam 3 the rescue of the US Stealth pilot. "It concentrates the mind and focuses the attention. His heing rescued was very encouraging indeed."

Mr Robertson flew into the

base with John Maples, the shadow defence minister, and and Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrats' foreign affairs and defence spokesman. Mr Robertson later said: "It certainly would be frightening to most of us who do not have to experience it on a day-

to-day basis. You can't help but



JOHN DAVISON An RAF Harrier pilot at Gioia del Colle in Italy. We support each other and we talk about our feelings in the debrief,' said one pilot

# inspiring. They are out there a beer afterwards. We support Not every shell has one.

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5 years of intensive research lavished upon it. But then, not every diesel engine is the Peugeot HDi. Call 0345 56 55 56. www.peugeot.co.uk PEUGEOT

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# **Primakov** flies to Belgrade for talks

THE NEGOTIATOR

THE LAST time Russia's Prime Minister pulled off an international diplomatic coup, a delighted Jacques Chirac sent a note to Boris Yeltsin. "Bravo for Primakov!" it read, That was back in 1997

when, as Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Primakov averted air strikes on Baghdad, albeit not for long. Today, as the veteran negotiator sets off to Belgrade for talks with Slobodan Milosevic, the Yugoslav President, the chance of more plaudits seems remote.

Russia is widely seen as the key to persuading Yugoslavia, its traditional ally, to agree to a peace deal. France and Italy yesterday both urged on Mr Primakov, who was celebrating the International Monetary Fund's reported decision to make yet another credit to Moscow. But none will be more aware than he of the immensity of the task. Mr Primakov will fly to Yugoslavia with the Foreign Minister, Igor Ivanov, and the Defence Minister, Marshal Igor Sergeyev - both of whom have been scathing in their criticism of Nato's bombings, Yesterday they cranked up their

attacks on the West still further. Mr Ivanov questioned the truth of reports that the Serbs had carried out genocide against the Kosovar Albanians; an Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe mission, stationed in Kosovo before the bombings began, saw only "individual clashes". He also said the survival of the six-nation Contact Group (UK, France, US, Russia, Italy and Germany), which tried to mediate between Yugoslavia and Kosovo's ethnic Albanians, was now in doubt.

Marshal Sergeyev claimed



negotiator for Russia

in the assaults. And sources in his ministry told Interfax news agency that Nato had been lying about targets which were

mostly civilian. As the Russian rhetoric gathered sound and fury, the Kremlin took credit for ordering the peace mission, which will also include the head of Russia's foreign and state intelligence service. President Yeltsin's spokesman said it was "to co-ordinate steps [with Milosevic] which could help find a political solution to the conflict which has emerged because of Nato's military action". Russian news agencies said the delegation may then go from Belgrade to Bonn, presumably to talk to

leaders of Nato countries. Mr Primakov, 69, has long experience of dealing with errant dictators. In 1991, he went to Baghdad to see if he could persuade Saddam Hussein to avoid the Gulf conflict. Mr Primakov wrote a memoir whose title he will again view as apt: A War That Did Not Have To Happen.

PHIL REEVES

## Churches urge halt to bombing

#### **CHRISTIAN RESPONSE**

WORLD CHURCH bodies yes-terday called on Nato to halt its bombing of Yugoslavia and urged the United Nations to launch new Kosovo peace efforts under its own auspices.

In a letter to the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, the leaders of four major Christian groupings said the longer the Western alliance maintained its assault, the more difficult a

solution would be. "We write to express our profound concern at the current military intervention of Nato in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and appeal to you to immediately initiate efforts of

the United Nations to seek a just and lasting peace to the conflict

in Kosovo," the letter said. It was signed by Konrad Reiser, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, Keith Clements of the Conference of European Churches and Ishmael Noko of the World Lutheran Federation.

The three said the letter also had the support of the Reformed Alliance of Reformed Churches.

"The Nato-led intervention manifests the failure of the international community to achieve a credible, negotiated solution," the letter said. (Reuters)

WAR IN THE BALKANS

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# Nato planes fire at Serb police force

#### THE TARGETS

NATO AIRCRAFT, including those of the RAF, concentrated their fire yesterday on Serbian military positions across Kosoyo in an attempt to combat the ferocious offensive against the region's civilian population.

Allied commanders in Brussels promised to "tighten the noose" around Slobodan Milosevic's war machine and in London the Ministry of Defence released graphic footage of RAF Harriers blowing up a munitions dump in Pristing.

The attack, on facilities of the Serbian military police, was aimed specifically at those car-rying out repression and ethnic cleansing in Kosovo. But the most pressing question, ac-cording to military analysts, is just how long Nato can defer vic's policy of repression in using ground forces poised on the Yugoslav borders.

Publicly, both the British and American governments continued with the party line that they had no intention of introducing the troops, who would include British soldiers based in Macedonia.

In London, the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, denied that the extensive publicity being given to atrocities by Serbian forces in Kosovo was preparing the public for the inevitable in-

troduction of the ground forces. The White House said it was not in favour of seoding in troops, despite what it called a "textbook case of ethnic cleansing" by Serb government forces and paramilitaries. A spokesman, Joe Lockhart, said: "We feel that we can meet our military objectives through the

Nato air campaign." For now this includes intense attacks on Serb armour and heavy artillery inside Kosovo, with increasing use of the A-"Warthog" tankbuster. ground attack planes. Several

morning from Aviano air base. in Italy, along with a number of F-16s. The A-10s can operate by day or night and are known to be extremely effective against armour. But they are low and slow-flying and thus would be vulnerable to Serb anti-aircraft

The RAF Harrier GR7s. which were shown on film destroying three buildings in Pristina, are part of phase two of the military operation - the use of tactical ground attack planes. The Chief of Defence Staff, General Charles Guthrie, said: "The tempo of operations is getting faster and the focus of our operations is shifting to-Kosovo and the infrastructure

Introducing photographs taken oo board the Harrier GR7s, Group Captain Steve Parkinson explained how each of the three pilots had operated "autonomously" to take out buildings at the site. The first two bombs were oo target but on the third attempt, one of the two bombs used "did not impact properly", landing on an area of open ground. The base was being used for the "processing and storing" of ammunition for

several types of weapons. President Bill Clinton returned to the White House from Camp David yesterday for emergency consultations with his national security staff, as owing evidence emerged that the conflict in Kosovo was spinning out of Nato's control.

Some congressmen sug-gested that action other than air strikes may be needed, but there was little indication that this opinion was widespread. Senator John McCain, a Republican, said that the US had were seen taking off yesterday to "exercise every option".

adding that if the threat of ground forces was raised against Mr Milosevic, "it could lend impetus to convincing him that he cannot win".

there were to be ground forces, they should be European, not American. If legal experts from the State Department say that genocide is occurring, they may shift ground. Uoder a 1948 UN treaty, every signatory state has a duty to prevent such a crime, and many legal experts say that this includes military intervention.

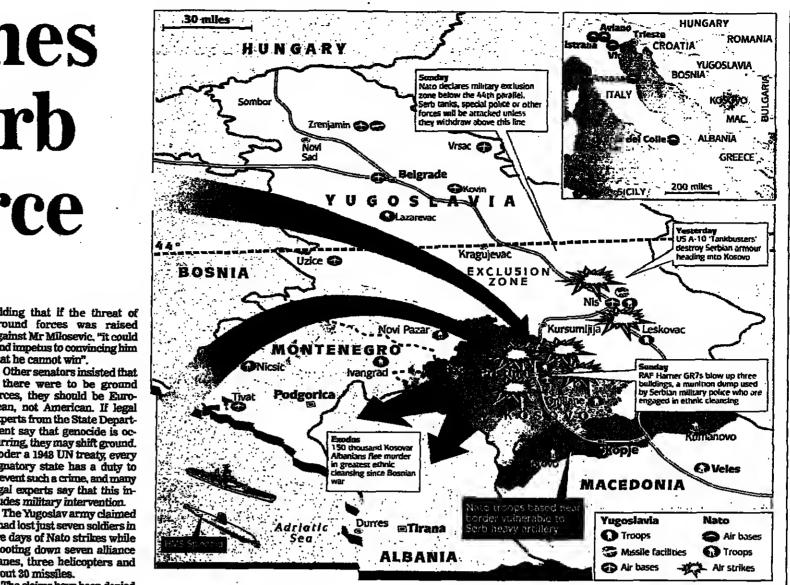
The Yugoslav army claimed it had lost just seven soldiers in five days of Nato strikes while shooting down seven alliance planes, three helicopters and about 30 missiles.

The claims have been denied

Lieutenant-General Spasoje Smiljanic, commander of the Yugoslav air force and air defence system, said Nato had under-estimated the readiness of the Serbs to defend their country, regardless of the number of casualties. He claimed that Nato, after hitting exclusively military targets until Saturday, had started dropping bombs and missiles on infrastructure and civilian targets, including schools, hospitals and refugee centres. "My country will defend itself to the last man and to the last combat means at our disposal.

Yesterday, Macedonia's Foreign Minister appealed to the European Union and Nato for rapid economic and military assistance. Aleksander Dimitrov said Yugoslav forces had closed in on the Macedonia border and neither his country nor the 12,000 Nato troops there had sufficient military capability to defend Macedonia.

KIM SENGUPTA AND





ANDREW MARSHALL Man and dog taking time for a greeting yesterday in Pristina against a backdrop of destruction by Nato Reuters

#### THE TIMETABLE

Monday 29 March 9:10am: Igor Sergeyev. Russian Defence Minister, claims Nato air strikes in Yugoslavia have killed 1.000 civilians

10:00am: Two US B-52 bombers take off from RAF Fairford. Gloucestershire

10:30am: President Clinton vows to keep on bombing until Yugoslavia halts its campaign of "brutality

11.19am: Russian leaders announce they will visit Belgrade today to negotiate an end to Nato air strikes

11:55am: Around 1,000 ethnic Albanlans from Kosovo flee into Macedonia on tractors

Noon: Nato discloses that 500,000 people have been displaced in Kosovo by fighting in

12:10pm: Pope John Paul calls for an end to violence in Yugoslavia and says negotiation is the route to peace.

1:40pm: Albanian border at Morina reopens after it was closed for three hours. 4,000 refugees are arriving per hour

2:30pm: Part of the Kosovo capital Pristina is set on fire by Serbs

3:00pm: Macedonia's Foreign Minister says his country was "one step away" from being dragged into the war

3:15pm: Nato discloses that five leading Kosovo Albanians have been "executed". including Baton Haxhlu, editor in chief on the main Kosovo Albanian newspaper Koho Ditore and Fehmi Agani, a negotiator at the Rambouillet peace talks

3:45pm: Nato says 21 targets have been hit, seven were army and police targets

6.20pm: Yugoslav general claims his forces had downed seven Nato planes, three helicopters

# Cook pledges 'we'll hunt down all war criminals'

#### INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE









planned because of the unfold-

ing humanitarian crisis. He

also conceded that the Nato at-

tacks may have made the situ-

ation worse. "But if it has made

it worse, it has made it worse

for a temporary period before

fectively to invade Yugoslavia "was not a sensible option", he

said. To assemble the number

of troops required would take

about two months, "assuming

you could find enough troops

that are fit and ready to go into

The British Army already has 4,800 troops in Macedonia

and a total of 8,500 ready to be

deployed on a peace-keeping

mission in Kosovo. This brings

the total of British soldiers ei-

ther preparing for operations,

on operations or recently re-

turned from operations to 41

per cent of the total. This, said Mr Robertson, was the highest

figure ever in peace time. Koso-

vo would also be the most in-

hospitable fighting territory

· In a show of political unity,

Deploying ground troops ef-

it gets better."

regime of terror being unleashed in Kosovo will be hunted down, arrested and brought before the International War Crimes Tribunal, Robin Cook,

Kosovo operations; Ojdanic, a leading hardliner

Foreign Secretary, said. Raising the temperature on the Belgrade regime, Mr Cook yesterday underscored the message that international law against genocide will be used to prosecute those apprehended. The Ministry of Defence published names of those held accountable for the war crimes. starting with Slobodan Milose-Tvic, with their position in the Serbian hierarchy.

The list also includes Lieukovic, the head of state security; Lieutenant-Colonel-General Pavokovic, formerly in charge of Kosovo operations and who is related by marriage to Mr Milosevic; Colonel-Geoeral Dragolub Ojdanic, one of the leading hardliners, and Major-General Lazervic, involved in directing the campaign against the Kosovo Liberation Army

The Ministry of Defence also issued a list of 17 villages destroyed by Serbian forces since ruary 1998, with the oumber of inhabitants killed.

As Nato warplanes continued to pound Yugoslav deiences and target troops on the ground, another kind of offen- to hold on to Kosovo but who do

THOSE RESPONSIBLE for the sive is also going on - to foment not want to go down in history had been done earlier than a revolt in the Yugoslav high command, it was disclosed yes-

George Robertson, the Sec-

retary of State for Defence, visiting RAF pilots at Gioia del Colle base in southern Italy, said that efforts were being made to turn military commanders away from the Milosevic regime and its "ethnic-cleansing" policy in the hope that they would stop the slaughter.

"He can't conduct 'ethnic cleansing on this scale without troops and without commanders right down the line," said Mr Robertson. "Some of these people are proud soldiers who tenant-General Radomar Mar- are not used to killing old women and young children."

Dismissing the Yugoslav Interior Ministry Police as "uniformed thugs", he said that many of the atrocities carried out over the past few days had been actions taken by individual commanders.

By contrast, he said, there were commanders in the Yugoslav Army who had grown up in the military and had decent standards of behaviour. He quoted the example of Morncithe campaign started in Feb- lo Perisic, who was dismissed as Mr Milosevic's army chief for criticising him over his policy

of confrootation with Nato. "There are decent people inside that structure who do want

as successors to the Nazis. They are the group of people that message has to get through to," he said.

"I don't believe for a minute that there is unity of purpose within the whole regime." Targeting these people was

the reason for repeated statements on television that atrocities were being recorded and those responsible would be referred to the International War Trial Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. "We are saying to them we are watching, we know what you are doing, we know who is doing it, and that infor-mation is going to The Hague'," said Mr Robertson.

The Secretary of State for Defence, who also addressed ground crew at Gioia del Colle, said the tempo of operations would oow increase.

But he gave a warning that the danger to pilots would also "Risks are very high, of

course. They are obviously increasing all the time. But these are very brave people," said Mr Robertson. "This is not going to be quick and it's not going to be

targeting of Serb ground troops

Mr Robertson admitted this

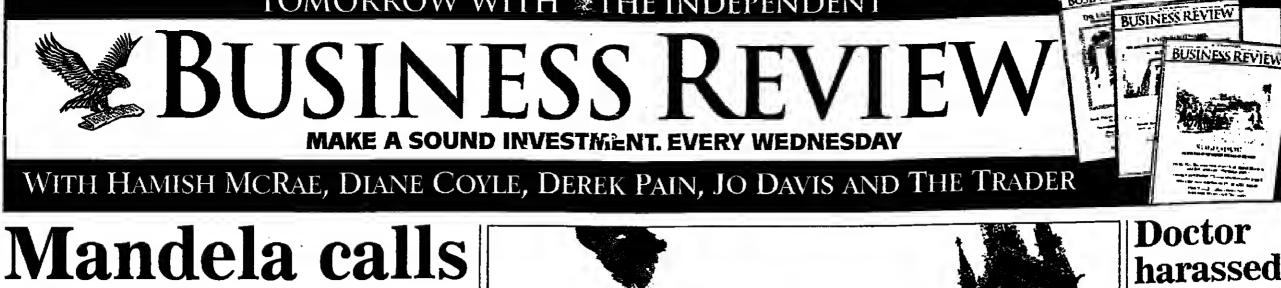
Mr Robertson was accompa-Operation Allied Force

nied on the visit by Menzies Campbell and John Maples, moved to Phase II over the the Liberal Democrat and Conweekend, allowing the direct servative defence spokesmen.

imaginable.

**JOHN DAVISON** in Gioia del Colle AND KIM SENGUPTA

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# on Ulster to reach a deal

By DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

PRESIDENT NELSON Mandela yesterday telephoned Belfast to express solidarity with the politicians - British, Irish nationalist and Ulster Unionist - who are engaged in a lastditch attempt to hreak the deadlock in the peace process.

The manifestation of international goodwill came as Tony Blair and the Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, arrived in Belfast to join local politicians who were already immersed in a heavy schedule of meetings.

These included two encounters between the Ulster Unionists and Sinn Fein, who are regarded as the key elements in finding a way through the decommissioning impasse. Today is expected to bring an even more intensive round of

With no clear formula yet in sight to solve the conundrum, opinion remains divided on the outcome of the talks. Many of yesterday's meetings were said to have had a positive tone, though in public the protagonists were unprepared to budge from their familiar positions.

Sources close to the negotiations say that if an accommodation is reached, it will probably happen on the basis of an agreed package consisting



Mandela: Sent a message of goodwill to all sides

of a number of elements. Central among these is the concept of mutual guarantees being swopped between the loyalists and republicans, with a clear choreograpby of steps to be undertaken in the coming months.

These could be witnessed and underwritten by the British and Irish governments, the US and by David Trimble's deputy as first minister designate, Seamus Mallon of the SDLP. The IRA would be expected

to provide a statement pledging commitment to the peace process and conveying a sense that it regards armed conflict as a thing of the past.

Another element in the equation may be a document, which is due to be published by tally failed to respond."

malisation" of security force activity. Some sources suggest this may go further than expressing the hope that various army bases would be closed if the major ceasefires hold.

Absolutely none of this is settled and all of it is dependent on a willingness by both sides to move from their stated posi-

The Rev Ian Paisley continued to predict that David Trimhie would shift his position. Accusing him of "being in the pocket of Tony Blair", he claimed the Ulster Unionist leader would accept any form of words on IRA arms that was acceptable to the British Prime Minister. He declared: "What we are saying is - come clean, Mr Trimble. What are you going to accept in order to allow Sinn

Fein into government?"
Mr Trimble's party, meanwhile, continued to insist on decommissioning. A statement said: "We are acutely aware that there are many people out there hurting as a result of prisoner releases. Well over half the prisoners have been released and still not a single hullet or ounce of Semtex has been handed over.

"We believe that the paramilitaries have failed to realise the extent of public feeling over this matter and they have to-



Skaters at the Albert Memorial in London yesterday before travelling through the city to monitor air quality as part of an anti-pollution campaign. Similar events were held in five other European cities

# Hundreds of businesses hit by Microsoft e-mail virus

ONE OF the most insidious BY CHARLES ARTHUR computer viruses ever known vesterday infected thousands of computers around the world, carried by an e-mailed document with a program which pillages electronic address books

to spread itself. In Britain, hundreds of businesses had to take emergency action after discovering incomTechnology Editor

ing e-mail from the US carried the virus. Named "Melissa", it uses the combination of software weaknesses and the nearmonopoly of Microsoft's wordng and e-mail programs, Word and Outlook Express.

The document, entitled Important message from ... contains a huge list of pornographic websites, but it also carries a "macro" - a set of instructions - which is implemented when the unwitting you've been hit by a virus," said the e-mail Detault settings in the newer versions of Word will launch the macro. That then raids the user's electronic address book and e-mails it-

self to up to 50 addresses. "Sending out a pornographic document which also carries grammer who was working at

a virus can damage your rep-utation - we have had financial was eventually traced to a CDclients and computer companies hit by this," said Kevin Street, technical manager for the anti-virus company. Syman-

tec. "In some countries it is against the law to send a virus." In a large company, trying to send so many messages could also crash computers.

Though anti-virus companies confirmed that many businesses were hit, none was willing to be named publicly. "There's a stigma in saying Jack Clark, European product manager for Network Associates, an anti-virus company.

The first "macro virus" appeared in September 1995, and affected earlier versions of written by a freelance prorom issued by the company.

Macro viruses have become more and more dangerous. Melissa was recognised as so virulent that for only the second time in a decade, the Central Emergeocy Response Team (Cert), an American organisation which monitors threats to the Internet, issued a warning of the risks posed by the virus.

"This morning alone we had 40 or 50 companies affected by it," Mr Clark said. "That is unprecedented. Usually when a new virus turns up we get a few calls from people asking how they would know if they had it.

This time, they have all had it." Warnings about the virus only began to circulate on the Word It is thought to have been written by a freelance promany in Britain to take action against it.

## harassed us, say parents

BY JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

THE HOSPITAL at the centre of an inquiry into experimental treatment on premature babies has called in outside experts to examine a separate complaint about harassment of parents accused of child abuse.

The North Staffordshire Hospital. Stoke-on-Trent, said allegations involving the consultant paediatrician David Southall were "potentially se-rious", although unsubstantiated, and it was calling in independent experts because it wanted to be "seen to be doing the right thing". The complaint relates to his work on the attention-seeking disorder Munchausen's hy Proxy, which included videotaping parents ahusing their children.

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Professor Southall, who has been at the North Staffordshire Hospital for o decade, is now the subject of three inves-tigations. Ministers ordered a review of research at the infirmary after complaints by parents whose premature babies were included in a study of o new type of ventilator, Of 144 who had the treatment, 28 died and 15 were brain-damaged.

The General Medical Council is conducting its own inquiry into parents' complaints that they were misled about the experimental nature of the treatment

The third investigation, by the trust, is into the claims by parents accused of child abuse that they were "harassed" and "victimised" by Professor Southall

In a statement issued to The Independent last night, the trust said it took all complaints seriously and was working to ascertain whether there was any evidence to support those made in this case.

"Given the wide-ranging nature of [the] complaints, the hospital has sought expert medical and nursing advice from outside the West Midlands Health region to assist in this process."

# BUS

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#### IN BRIEF Youths held over double killing

TWO TEENAGERS were remanded in custody by Preston magistrates yesterday charged with murdering a jeweller and his wife. The bodies of Mohammed Karim, 52, and his wife Bilquis, 48, were found at their shop in Preston on 19 March. Christopher Gavin, 18, and a 16-year-old hoy, who both come from Preston, were remanded until 7 April.

Mother admits cruelty to child, 3 A WOMAN who abandooed her three-year-old daughter in

A WUMAN who abandooed her three-year-old daughter in the woods, sparking a massive police hunt, pleaded guilty to cruelty yesterday at Warrington Crown Court. Michelle Jones, from Warrington, Cheshire, admitted abandoning her child hut denied causing grievous bodily harm. Ms Jones, 24, was bailed until 23 April for sentencing.

Malaria outbreak at hospital

A HOSPITAL launched an investigation yesterday after two patients contracted malaria. A ward at Nottingham's City Hospital was closed down and fumigated after the patients were diagnosed. It is only the second time there has been an outbreak of the tropical disease in a British hospital.

Skiers 'not guilty of avalanche'

THREE BRITISH men accused of "endangering the lives of others" by skiing down a closed piste at Val d'Isère and setting off an avalanche last month, were yesterday found not guilty by the criminal court in Albertville, France.

ANNE MCELVOY



Poor Joe Ashton hadn't even got into his bath when the police arrived

IN THE TUESDAY REVIEW PAGE 4

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Will bearing bly

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# Celebrities sue council over library closures

AS DEMONSTRATIONS go, it was a rather civilised affair, a AND LOUISE JURY far cry from the great unwashed waving placards and chanting slogans. But then it was made up of the cream of London's cultural society. And it was about libraries.

Yesterday the broadcaster Joan Bakewell, the writer Deborah Moggach and the actor Roger Lloyd-Pack announced that they are mounting a legal challenge to Camden Council's decision to close three of its 13 public libraries, and raised the prospect of celebrity sit-ins featuring Ben Elton, Harry Enfield and Alan Bennett. A formal complaint will be delivered to Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, on Thursday and the campaigners, led by Plug, the Camden Public Library Users Group, hope that it will force an inquiry into the closures, which are scheduled to take place later this year.

The Labour-controlled council says the libraries are underused and the cost of issuing books is far higher than elsewhere in the capital. It has promised to extend opening to sit in we will but I hope it will

hours at the remaining libraries. But Ms Bakewell said the closure decision had been made without sufficient public consultation. "This is against the interest of the reading public and against education, about which we heard so much dur-

ing the election," she said. Mr Lloyd-Pack, who lives in Kentish Town, quoted from King Lear, and said the "scurvy politicians" of the council needed to understand that libraries were a vital part of the social fabric of a community.

Chalk Farm, Belsize Park and Kilburn contravenes the 1964 which states that councils must provide an efficient and comprehensive library service. The protesters, who number

thousands in the borough, have already pledged to join sit-ins and promised yesterday that their campaign would become a lot more robust if necessary. Ms Bakewell said: "If we have

not come to that. Reading is a civilised activity and let's hope that a civilised campaign will work. "We are not going to go away. This is a very important issue and we will not give up.'

Tom Selwyn, of Piug, said: "The elderly disabled and mothers with pushchairs will not be able to travel to other libraries. It would cost only £200,000 out of a library budget of around com to keep them open," he said. A spokesman for the council said Camden has more libraries per head than any other borough and that it was only trying to achieve the best service it could.

The campaigners claim that Seven first novels from an the plan to close the libraries at international array of women writers are among those in the running for Britain's biggest Libraries and Museums Act, book award, announced yesterday. Established stars Toni Morrison and Beryl Bainbridge sit alongside the first-time writ ers on the 20-strong "long-list" for the Orange Prize for Fiction. The £30,000 prize is awarded annually for the best novel of the year written by a woman in English and published in the UK. The winner will be announced in June



Broadcaster Joan Bakewell leading protests at the planned closure of three libraries in Chalk Farm, Belsize Park and Kilburn Tom Craig

# Hanratty evidence hidden by police

THE POLICE suppressed evi- By JASON BENNETTO dence that could have saved James Hanratty, hanged 37 Appeal Hanratty, 25, was executed in April 1962.

Campaigners said they were shocked by evidence uncov- who claimed to have seen Hanered by the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC), which, after a two-year inquiry, ruled the courts should reconcies in the mileage on the car's sider the case. The family say witnesses and contradictions in key evidence were withheld at

the time of the trial. Hanratty was hanged for shooting Michael Gregsten, 36, a scientist. He was also accused of raping Gregsten's mistress, of rules at the identification pa-Valerie Storie, 22, who was shot rade and police misconduct. and left for dead

prising the lovers in a cornfield Jimmy said, They framed me in Dorney Reach, Berkshire, Hanratty forced them to drive stitched up.' Everything that's to Deadman's Hill on the A6 come out in the commission resouth of Bedford, where they port is what Jimmy said." were shot. Charges of rape and Storie, who was paralysed from the waist down, were held in re-

The conviction was based largely on Miss Storie's recollection of her attacker's voice. She saw him for a few seconds and only picked out Hanratty at a second identity parade. There was no scientific evidence. Hanratty said he was in Rhyl, Wales - a claim backed up by many witnesses after his execution.

Yesterday members of Hanratty's legal team and family said the prosecution failed to parade procedures were also

Crime Correspondent

years ago for the A6 murder, his flawed. They also said witfamily said after the decision to nesses reported seeing the car refer the case to the Court of at the centre of the crime in the Derby area within hours of the attack.

This contradicts witnesses ratty driving it in Redbridge, east London, early in the morning. Police knew of discrepanodometer but failed to disclose them. The new evidence was found in statements kept in police archives.

The CCRC lists three reasons for the referral: nondisclosure of evidence; breach

nd left for dead. Hanratty's brother Michael It was alleged that after sur-... I don't why but I've been

Geoffrey Bindman, acting the attempted murder of Miss for the Hanratty family, said the commission expressed serious concern about police conduct. There was also powerful evidence that vital evidence was suppressed.

A former criminal, Peter Alphon, has been accused of the murder. He has denied it. despite earlier reported confessions. He refused to comment yesterday.

In 1996 Michael Howard, then home secretary, received a report from a senior Metropolitan Police officer which concluded Hanratty was innodisclose contradictions in evidence by Miss Storie Identity to the CCRC when it was

## Injustice reviews hit major delays

WRONGLY CONVICTED pris- BY IAN BURRELL oners are being made to serve their entire jail sentences because of "major problems" at the commission set up by the Government to examine possible miscarriages of justice.

ree-mall

The Commons Home Affairs Select Committee said in a redelays at the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC)

were "unacceptable". been wrongly convicted will be 27 are still before the court. serving out their sentence before their case has been dealt with. Furthermore, far from improving, it is deteriorating."

The committee says the demands upon the CCRC "will increase relentlessly" and calls for it to be given greater resources

at the beginning of 1997, on the review.

Home Affairs Correspondent

recommendation of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, set up after the Court of Appeal quashed the convictions of

the Birmingham Six in 1991. Only 40 cases have been report published yesterday that ferred by the CCRC to the Court of Appeal. Of these, eight have been quashed, two have had sentences reduced, and three It said: "People who have have been lost. The remaining

Successful appellants include Danny McNamee, accused of the Hyde Park bombing, and the the situation being in hand or family of Derek Bentley, who was hanged for his part in the murder of a police officer.

By the end of last month, the commission had received 2,325 applications, of which 69 per and to improve its efficiency.

The CCRC was established cent were still being considered for eligibility or substantive

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# Lordships flounder as they swim against the tide

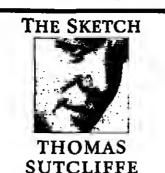
imagine the chamber as a vast rock restaurant holding-tank. pool, the water so limpid that it has become effectively invisible. At the duced the first day of debate on the far end there's a great outcrop of golden coral and, ranged along the walls like pin-striped anemones adhering to weed-covered ledges. their lordships themselves, waving their tendrils in response to some nice. Earl Ferrers rose to protest: consensual tide of opinion. It has its fish too, some colourful, some snappy, some sleekly menacing, and yesterday it was considering the fact that several hundred of the pool's

THERE ARE times when, staring plucked from the water, whipped peers under house arrest but Earl down into the House of Lords from away by the Government's House the press gallery, it's possible to of Lords Bill, like lobsters from a

The Labour Chief Whip introsecond reading of the Bill by pleading with his colleagues for restraint. He had no powers to constrain, he conceded, but an average length of seven minutes per speech would be "Does he realise that some of your lordships are going to be restrained for the rest of their lives!"

I hadn't understood that the Government's Bill included meamore exotic occupants were to be sures to place all the hereditary

Ferrers' extravagance of speech accurately set the tone for several of the Conservative contributions that followed, with their curious habit of inverting the terms of the argument - so that the belated withdrawal of an indefensible privilege could be depicted as the infliction of an entirely novel cruelty. Such is the distorting effect of life in a rock pool, where the occasional cold splash of fresh water can be represented not as a reviving intrusion from the sea beyond, hut as a catastrophic disruption of that enclosed universe. One of the most cherished delu-



that of "service to the nation" - as if an automatic right to a place in privilege at all, but a burden which sions of the rock pool inhabitants is

Even Labour speakers pay lip serthwarted impulse to duty could be Party wishes to achieve. vice to this fantastic notion, anxious not to hurt the feelings of their noble still moved by the plight of the discolleagues, though when Baroness Jay raised the matter, during her soon be fleeing from the brutal prejopening speech, there was a barb inside the bait; there were many ways of giving service to the coun-rington's political distinctions he try, she pointed out, whether it pointed out that he was to be exwas hy serving in the Army or teaching in a school: "All those same opportunities are now open to the hereditary peers who will leave us." And if neither of those jobs suit, they can be hospital disc jockeys or lollipop men.

Lord Strathclyde was not for the fact that altering the body

expressed in other ways. He was tinguished refugees who would udice of Labour's constitutional militia. Listing some of Lord Carcluded from the House, not for any was born". You cannot hope, he continued, "to score a knife across one of the arteries of our history and leave the body politic unaltered". This sounded rather terrifying, but

only the aristocracy is fit to bear. soothed by this reminder that the politic is precisely what the Labour

Lord Carrington, incidentally, made a rather good speech himself, already moving on beyond dispossession to ask some pointed questions about the shape of the new chamber, which he believed should be an elected body with the power to call a referendum in cases of constitutional import. When he spoke sin but simply "because of where he he generated a wave that splashed beyond the confines of the rock pool. Most of his colleagues could only manage ripples that rebounded from its walls, even if they convinced themselves they were mighty surges.

# Blair rejects criticism of Nato bombing

TONY BLAIR yesterday dis- KOSOVO missed as "absurd" suggestions that Serbian atrocities against Kosovo Albanians had started as a result of the Nato air strikes on Yugoslavia.

The Prime Minister said the current massacres had been planned by Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic over the last two months.

In a statement to the House of Commons, Mr Blair said: "For every act of barbarity, every slaughter of the innocents, Milosevic should be made to pay a higher and high-

He made clear that the air strikes were continuing and intensifying amid the renewed Serb repression in Kosovo. "It is now clear that Serb par-

ticipation in the Paris peace talks was a cover for Milosevic's offensive preparations. "In my view, our response to these appalling acts, far from halting or slowing the allied ac-

tion, must be to Intensify it

and see it through to a suc-

cessful conclusion," he said. Addressing backbench concern over the military action, he

BY SARAH SCHAEFER **Political Reporter** 

the "utter, callous brutality" with which the Kosovo Albanwas under "any remaining illusions about the nature of the Serb regime".

Mr Blair disclosed that the Department for International Development had allocated an extra £10m to an international refugee relief effort, and a joint military and civilian team would visit Macedonia and Albania later this week.

William Hague, the Tory leader, reiterated his party's support for the military action. "Nothing would be more disastrous to the humanitarian situation you have described or to the credibility of Nato than if we backed out of what has now been started," he said. Paddy Ashdown, the Liber-

"whatever was oeeded" - including the use of ground troops - to cope with the humanitarian crisis, oot just for "reasons of humanity hut also said that no ooe who had seen for reasons of stability".

He added: "Is it not the case if the voice of the Kosovo Albanians were heard in this chamber they would be saying: 'For God's sake don't stop until the joh is done'?"

But David Davis, the former Tory Minister for Europe, challenged the Prime Minister: Could you tell us whether you predicted Milosevic's viciousness and, if you did, why was not more of the immediate military action focused on mitigating

Tony Benn, the Labour MP who has led opposition to the air strikes in the Commons, argued that the refugee situation had deteriorated as a result and could destabilise the region,

"What is required is UN action, a ceasefire, of the kind you urged so skillfully in Northern Ireland, and bringing in somebody of international status, maybe Nelson Mandela, to try to get the sides together before al Democrat leader, called for the situation gets totally out of cootrol," he said.

Tory Sir Peter Tapsell, dismissed Britain's involvement in the air strikes as "historically ignorant, politically inept and internationally illegal".



Mohammed Sarwar, the Labour MP for Glasgow Govan, who returned to the House of Commons yesterday after being found not guilty last week of attempting to pervert the course of justice Fiona Hanson/PA

### Annual report' on race reforms

HOME AFFAIRS

By Sarah Schaefer

JACK STRAW stepped up the Government's anti-racism campaign last night, stressing that he wanted a society where everyone, regardless of colour, race or religion, had an equal opportunity to succeed.

Opening the debate on the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, the Home Secretary announced that an annual report on progress in combating racism would be published.

Vowing to take personal responsibility for delivering a programme of change, Mr Straw said that a steering group set up to implement the recommendations of the Macpherson report would meet for the first time in May.

While he pledged to implement most of the 70 reforms proposed within three years, the Home Secretary renewed his "serious reservations" about proposals to allow prosecutions for racist offences that take place in private.

Sir Norman Fowler, the shadow Home Secretary, said that the murder of Stephen Lawrence, stabbed while waiting for a hus in Eltham, south-east London, was an "unnecessary tragedy" followed





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mingham Airport		£299	Bexley		E339

#### Peers begin two-day debate on 'radical, historic' reform PEERS BEGAN a last attempt to HOUSE OF LORDS But the fundamental point is change the Government's mind that the birthright itself can no By Sarah Schaefer longer be sustained." over House of Lords reform yesterday, as Baroness Jay of Lords Bill because it was a The Government has made

Paddington hailed legislation to scrap hereditary voting rights

as an "historic first step". Tory peers indicated that they would back an amendment by Lord Cobbold, a crossbencher, that criticises the Government for removing hereditary peers before revealing its plans for the future make-up of the upper house. But while the Government is expected to be defeated in a symbolic vote on the amendment, peers cannot actually wreck the House of

New anti-drugs service begins A NEW service to tackle

the use of drugs will be launched on Thursday,

Home Office minister

announced. The Home

Office Drugs Prevention

Service will replace the

Initiative, which makes

progress report today.

George Howarth

Drugs Prevention

its eighth and final

**Dome links** 

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

links to the Millennium

Dome will be ready on

time for the 2000

festivities, said the

Secretary of State for

Culture, Chris Smith.

**Arms deals** 

RUSSIA HAS denied

allegations of arms deals

with Iraq and restated its

commitment to upholding

the UN Security Council

resolutions, Baroness

Symons of Vernham

Dean said.

manifesto pledge.

Opening the marathon twoday debate, in which nearly 200 peers will speak, Baroness Jay, the Leader of the Lords insisted: "In this, the last few months of the 20th century, the Government believes we must

finally close the political chapter of the 19th." "Anyone with any knowledge of our history understands the immensely important role the hereditary peerage has played

clear it will accept an amendment, to be introduced by Lord Weatherill, the chairman of the crossbenchers, which would retain 91 hereditaries during the interim stage between stage one and two of the reform.

However, a Government source stressed last night that any attempts by peers during the Bill'a committee stage to delay its passage or call for a referendum on the issue would be regarded as a hreach of

Lord Strathclyde, the Tory leader of the Lords, gave an indication of the difficult battle ahead when he argued that the Lords were in a "Wonderland where nothing is quite what it seems"

Lord Cobbold, a hereditary peer, said: "Before allowing ourselves to be ejected from the House I believe that we have a paramount duty to the British people to satisfy ourselves that a successor second Chamber will be better, more efficient, more democratic, more representative, more effective and more respected than the House is today."

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t's not your

#### MPs angry over **QUESTIONS** 'dumbing down' AND **ANSWERS** of programmes

CHRIS SMITH, the Secretary of MEDIA State for Culture, Media and Sport, will lead protests to the BBC from MPs about the alleged "dumbing down" of broadcasting in the ratings war with commercial stations for higher viewing and listening figures.

Mr Smith is also to raise with the Independent Television . Commission concern about the quality of programmes which followed the moving of News At Ten to a new timeslot.

Mr Smith faced anger from MPs on all sides yesterday in the Commons over the BBC's perceived shift downmarket. The focus for the MPs' anger was the decision to move the reporting of Parliament off Radio 4, but they also complained about the quality of public ser-

vice delivered by the BBC. Mr Smith told the MPs the Government could not intervene directly about programming but he would be raising the issue personally. He said he ernors and the director-generBY COLIN BROWN

Chief Political Correspondent al, "of their duty as a public service broadcaster, not only to en-tertain hut also to educate and to inform... My personal view is certainly that accurate and full coverage of what happens

duty. I am sure that is a point many MPs will wish to make." It was not up to the Government to make a "government view" about programming decisioos. "It is up to individual

in Parliament is part of that

MPs to do so," he said. Norman Baker (Lib Dem. Lewes) said: "The BBC is awash with, indeed submerged

with, management strategies, management consultants and mission statements. The situation is so absurd Broadcasting House now has no broadcasters in it - solely management." Licence holders would get a better deal by having more money spent on programmes would remind the BBC, its gov- and journalists and less on "gobbledegook managers".

THE HOUSE

**Labour MPs** attack Chelsea LABOUR BACKBENCHERS

attacked Chelsea Football Club for its decision to stand by its coach Graham Rix, who has been jailed for having sex with a 15-year-old girl.

Smoking costs BARRY SHEERMAN, the Labour MP for

Huddersfield, will today urge the Secretary of State for Health, Frank Dobson to charge smokers before they receive National Health Service treatment.

Today's business Commons, 2.30pm

Health questions. **Employment Relations** Bill, report Lords, 11am House of Lords Bill, second reading, last day.

THE INDIGINAL

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HOME AFFAIRS

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# Commuters forced to stand for overcrowding beyond the limit

ROUTE	% passengers in
Thameslink	excess of capacity
Wimbledon-Blackfriars <b>Thameslink</b>	14.1 per cent AM
Wimbledon-Blackfriars Silverlink	12.1 per cent PM
London Euston-Watford South West Trains	10.9 per cent AM
Short distanca services Silverlink	6.3 per cent AM
Richmond-Woolwich South West Trains	5.9 per cent AM
Long distance services Thameslink	5.8 per cent AM
Bedford-Brighton Thameslink	5.8 per cent AN
Bedford-Brighton Connex SouthCentral	5.5 per cent PM
South London routes	4.6 per cent AM
All Routes Source: Office for Passenger Roll Fronchising UM=morning peak; PM=evening peak	4.4 per cent AM

BRITAIN'S COMMUTER rail BY PHILIP THORNTON network is close to breaking point, the Government's rai watchdog warned yesterday, as he published figures showing that passengers are suffering severe overcrowding.

Two commuter services into London - Thameslink and South West Trains ~ exceeded their permitted overcrowding limits last year

Thameslink, which runs from Bedford to Brighton via London and from central London to Wimbledon, carried 7.1 per cent more people than the capacity of its trains allowed. South West Trains, the commuter service from London to Surrey and Hampshire, recorded 3.9 per cent overcrowding.

John O'Brien, the franchising director of the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising (Opraf), said: "Clearly, if numbers continue to grow at the predicted rate, the system will soon become overloaded. Commuter capacity is a key issue that the Strategic Rail Authority will need to urgently address."

Mr O'Brien said that both train companies must divise action plans to ease overcrowding. They may be fined or even lose their franchises if they fail to deliver.

The Opraf system, which only covers the 10 commuter services that run into London, gives train companies a 3 per cent threshold to allow for standing. Opraf said the other eight of these operators had stayed within the threshold, despite achieving an annual 3.8 per cent growth in passen-

The figures are the latest blow to the industry, following dreadful punctuality and reliability figures that prompted the Government to intervene from London to Glasgow. Pasand call a rail summit.

Minister with responsibility for transport, said vesterday that carrying more passengers was also hopes easyJet will offer no excuse for poor performance. cheap air fares for passengers.

Transport Correspondent

"Passengers expect and deserve to travel in comfort. That doesn't include standing for the length of the journey," he said. 'As passenger numbers contime to grow there will be more strain on current capacity. We look to the franchising director, where possible, to reduce any severe overcrowding."

The London Regional Pas senger Committee, the official watchdog for the capital, said passengers on Thameslink faced "appalling problems". Rufus Barnes, LRPC director. said: "There does not appear to be a short-term solution because of the infrastructure limitations in south London."

The Association of Train Operating Companies said the rail system was "wrestling with the problems of its own success". "We are having to cope with

unprecedented growth of 25 per cent over the past four years. We have introduced 1,000 extra services a day to cope with increasing demand but we still need more trains and major improvements to track and signalling."

Railtrack last week unveiled a £27bn 10-year investment programme but only committed £1.4bn of new money to expend the network. The Health and Safety Executive said It had commissioned research into whether overcrowd railway safety.

■ Trains carrying cars will return tomorrow as a private Rail axed them to save money. Motorail aims by 2001 to

take 20,000 cars off the roads each year. It will cost £360 return to put a car on the train sengers have to travel sepa-John Prescott, Deputy Prime rately but train operators GNER, Virgin and ScotRail are offering low fares, and Motorail



Commuters squeezing into a Thameslink train yesterday afternoon. Companies may be fined if they do not ease overcrowding Tom Craig

Worst offender is 'victim of success'

Deleaguered commuters on the from Wimbledon, south Lon- Trains, had 3.9 per cent. don, to Blackfriars that they are

venture, four years after British riding the most overcrowded trains on the network. This service accounted for much of the 14 per cent overcrowding in the morning rush

hour on the route, revealed in official figures published yesterday. Every morning 5,415 people travel on traina designed to take just 4,748. Overall, Thameslink suf-

fered 7.1 per cent overcrowding across its network. The next

IT WILL come as no surprise to BY PRILIP THORNTON

7.51am Thameslink service worst offender, South West Thameslink said it was the

"victim of its own success". Passenger numbers have risen by 50 per cent since privatisation, with 12 per cent more commuters in the last year alone.

It said thousands of passengers flocked to its core route, run more services. But it said from Bedford into central Lon- the Government must extend its don and out the other side to Brighton, as it cut fares and im-

proved performance. Railtrack has pledged to spend £800m on the Thames-

link 2000 project to double ca- years we will have a major pacity on a bottleneck just south of the Thames. But the project is six years behind

schedule and will not be complete until 2008. Thameslink yesterday said it could solve the problem within 14 mooths by building more

trains and buying space on the parallel Midland Main Line to seven-year franchise to make the investment worthwhile.

Euan Cameron, Thameslink managing director, said: "If we do nothing then within three

problem north of the river. Waiting for Thameslink 2000 is wholly unacceptable."

Rufus Barnes, director of the capital's official watchdog, the London Regional Passenger Committee, said commuters suffered "horrendous problems" but said they were not all Thameslink's fault.

He said the amount of investment needed to meet the Government's targets for getting commuters out of their cars and on to public transport was beyond the resources of the

cent since it won the franchise in April 1996. It said overcrowding increased by just 0.1 per cent over the last year, despite a 9.8 per cent passenger growth, because of its investment in extra trains. But a spokeswoman said: "Major infrastructure invest-

ening platforms. Railtrack last week suggested introducing double-decker trains and longer platforms hut made no firm commitments, saying other companies would have to share the cost. who were married.

ment is needed such as length-

# Official: money can buy you love

BY CHERRY NORTON Social Affairs Correspondent

MONEY CAN buy you love, according to new research. People are more likely to stay together if they have a cash windfall or other unexpected boosts to their finances.

But a sudden increase in the woman's earnings, or having three or more children increases the risk of couples breaking up, according to a study conducted by the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of

The study, presented today at the Royal Economic Society's annual conference in Nottingham, was based on surveys of 5,500 couples with at least one child between 1991 and 1997. It showed that far from children holding couples together, the greater the number of children the couple had, the more likely the relationship was to break down. This risk increased if the children were more than six years old.

René Bôheim, one of the report's authors, said: "The more children, the greater the strain. with three appearing to be the breaking point."

Previous research has shown that a sudden change in economic fortune for better or for worse causes friction between couples which was thought to lead to a greater risk of breaking up. But the research shows that money is more likely to bind couples together. Those whose income suddenly exceeds their expectations are 30 per cent more likely to stay together.

"It is not bow much money they have hut bow much money they expect to have," said Mr Böheim, "People who find themselves surprisingly better off have fewer problems and less friction with their partners. They find they are in a more fulfilling situation."

Those who suddenly found themselves in a worse position were no more likely to split up than couples who were in exactly the position they expected to be. The average rate of divorce for this group was 3 per cent. Higher women's earnings increased the likelihood of couples splitting up. A breakdown of tradition and female financial independence were seen to be senger numbers had risen 24 per | the main driving forces for the increased risk of separation.

The divorce rate is higher among women who earn a lot of money.

"If women have their own earning power and are financially independent they will put up with less," said Professor John Ermish, who co-authored the report looked at both

married and cohabiting counles. Cohabiting couples were more than twice as likely to end their relationship than couples

## Pinochet cleared to challenge Straw ruling | Failed mercy killer freed

GENERAL AUGUSTO Pinochet BY KIM SENGUPTA was yesterday given the goahead in the High Court for a legal challenge to the Home Secretary's decision to authorise extradition proceedings against him on charges of human rights abuse.

But the application for a judicial review was adjourned to allow Jack Straw to consider the issue, in the light of the law lords' ruling on the case last week, and new evidence against the former Chilean dictator sent from Spain.

The hearing will restart on

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after 15 April, by which time Mr Straw will have reached his decision. Another application on behalf of the 83-year-old general, for habeas corpus, was also postponed until the same day by Lord Justice Laws, sitting with Mr Justice Cresswell and Mr Justice Latham.

Lord Justice Laws said: "It seems to me that the interests of justice and the duty of this court are to achieve a situation consistent with the decision of the House of Lords last week in the first available court date which the Secretary of State

this matter expeditiously but in an orderly fashion."

Clive Nichells QC, appearing for General Pinochet, had argued that the application for habeas corpus should not be delayed as the first authority to proceed issued by Mr Straw plainly could not stand. Any delay until after the

Home Secretary had reconsidered the case would deprive the general of his right "to be set at liberty and returned to Chile". But the judges rejected his argument after being told the

may reconsider the merits of reconsider the case afresh "with a blank sheet of paper".

Last Wednesday, the law lords ruled that while General Pinochet did not have blanket sovereign immunity he was nevertheless immune from extradition for crimes allegedly committed up to 8 December 1988, when the international Torture Convention became binding on Spain, the UK and

This was followed, however. by the Spanish authorities issuing 33 more post-1988 charges of torture and murder Home Secretary wanted time to against the general.



General Pinochet: Judicial review adjourned

A WOMAN who attempted a mercy killing of her husband walked free from court vesterday. Victoria Wood, 56, a toymaker, admitted to attempting to murder Timothy Wood, 69, and was sentenced to two years' probation at Exeter

Crown Court.

The court heard that Mr Wood, a former teacher, had suffered from irreversible dementia since 1993. In 1994, Mr Wood made a "liv-

ing will" indicating he did not want to receive life-prolonging treatment in the event of serious illness. In October of last floor and, fearing be may be

BY NICK ALLEN

vear he was diagnosed as having Parkinson's disease. On 18 October, Mrs Wood took her husband from a care home to their house, near Totnes in Devon. She later told police she gave her husband a

total of six sleeping tablets, put on his favourite music -Beethoven - undressed him and lay beside him. "I then put the pillow over his face," she said. "I told him I loved him and everything would be all right." But then Mr Wood fell to the

injured, Mrs Wood called the emergency services and police. The court heard that she told ambulance officers: "I know legally what I did was wrong but I know morally it was right." Mr Wood has no memory of

the incident. Mr Justice Toulson said to Mrs Wood: "I accept without hesitation that you love him and that you believed that what thing, but neither the fact that your motive was to spare him wretchedness nor your conviction that you were doing right means it was right."

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# Slump in singles cuts homes need

RISING NUMBERS of couples By Paul Waugh living together have forced the Political Correspondent Government to cut its projection of the amount of new that he was set to revise uphomes that need to built in the

countryside. The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, made the claim yesterday when he published new figures showing that England would need 300,000 fewer homes than expected over the next 17 years.

Mr Prescott amounced that 4.1 million new households were projected to be created by 2016, down from the last government's estimate of 4.4 million.

The number of single people living on their own, the group that makes up the largest proportion of home growth, was lower than previously calculated, while the amount of cohabiting couples was higher.

Mr Prescott said that he was publishing the projections to counter secent speculation

wards to 5 million the figure for new homes. The Tories had worked out

that England would need 4.4 million homes between 1991 and 2016, but the corrected figures now show that household growth will increase by 3.8 milion between 1996 and 2021. About 150,000 new homes a

year will be needed, compared to the 175,000 a year previously ronmentalists said should ease pressure on the greenbelt. The new statistics show that areas like the North-west, Yorkshire and the North-east are ex-

pected to need many fewer new homes, although the pressures on the South-east and South-west remain similar.

Mr Prescott said that al-

away from the "predict and provide" culture that had dominated the issue of housebuilding for the past 20 years.

The statistics were not premight be expected if previous trends continued, he stressed.

"Such trends can and do change as a result, for example. of demographic or economic factors, as the new cohabiting assumptions show," he said.

Mr Prescott said the Government wanted to meet housing needs by setting a target of 60 per cent of homes to be built on urban, brownfield sites, and by allowing local planning authorities and regional development agencies more flexibility.

"Our emphasis is on urban naissance, making our towns and cities places where people want to live." he said.

Tony Burton, of the Council

portant, he wanted to move land, said that the volatility in the figures proved that the Government was right to move away from the "predict and provide" strategy of the Turies.

However, although the prodictions, but based on what jections had fallen, they still showed 20 per cent more homes would be needed over the 25year period, a fact that put huge

pressure on the countryside. "Rural England will receive scant relief from a fall in the household projections unless the Government acts with greater urgency to undo the damage of past policies."

The Housebuilders Federation countered that the figures proved that new housing was vital if the nation was to meet the ment's push to build on brownfield sites ignored the reality that the demand was highest in areas like Swindon and Suffolk, where though the figures were im- for the Protection of Rural Eng- new jobs were being created.



Gordon Brown at a London nursery yesterday. He promised to 'break the cycle' of poverty

# Poverty shown to damage ability in two-year-olds

BY CHERRY NORTON Social Affairs Correspondent

POVERTY DAMAGES a child's chances in life before they reach the age of two. Research has shown that those born into the lower social classes perform much worse in educational and development tests at 22 months than those in the top social classes.

The findings, released yes terday in a Treasury report, Tackling Poverty and Extendmanual classes. These differences continue to widen when

the children start school Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said: found that two children in five are born poor and are growing



Even baby's skills are defined by class John Lawrence

begun." Mr Brown said the Government was committed to eliminating inequalities and poverty, defined as living off half the average wage. Initiatives such as the introduction of the minimum wage, increases in families would lift 700,000 children out of poverty, he said.

"[Inequality] is bad econom-

damage to society. We are determined to create more opportunities which will ensure that people are given the life chances, the education and skills they need to find jobs and break the cycle."

The six-month study showed that the gap between the rich and poor in the UK has widened sharply in the last 20

Europe. Inequalities in Ireland, Italy. Portugal, France, Germany and Holland have been reduced or kept stable. The figures show 12 million people, or a quarter of the population, are now living in poverty. Four million of these people are chil-dren. This figure is three times the number in 1979.

Although people in the top income bracket have seen their wages double in the last 20 years, those in the lowest fifth

mere 15 per cent rise. The poor are less likely to ecome educated and move out of the cycle of unemploy ment and menial jobs. A child's chance of ending up in the topearning quarter of the population was four times higher if their father's income was in the top quarter. Nearly two thirds of people living in poverty came from families where no-one worked. The number of workless households has more than ically and does even greater years, a trend that is unique in doubled in the last 20 years.

# Model's lover jailed for her murder

THE JEALOUS lover of Kadamba Simmons, a model and actress, was yesterday jailed for life for her murder

Yaniv Malka, 22, a former Israeli soldier, had strung up Ms Simmons' naked body in a shower and then made halfhearted attempts on his own life to make it look as though she

had died in a suicide pact. But a jury at the Old Bailey that Malka had strangled Ms Simmons, 24, before placing

had her whole life ahead of her. It was a life of great promise. You deprived her of that life. You caused suffering to her and great suffering to her family and

Outside the court, Ms Simmons' father, John Simmons, 50, said: "For Kadamba's mother, her sister and I, the essence and truth of our beloved daughter remains untouched. The love she gave and the love she

generated will never die."

born out of jealousy. Yaniv cide on the roof of a building in Malka was a very jealous man. central London, David Water, He made the decision that if he could not have Kadamba, no one else would. It is a very sad, tragic case, but justice has

Malka showed no emotion as he was sentenced for the murder last June at a friend's flat in Islington, north London. He

had pleaded not guilty. The naked body of Ms Simmons, a former girlfriend of Liam Gallagher of Oasis, was her neck in a noose.

Judge Elgan Edwards told

Malka: "Kadamba Simmons

generated will never die."

Detective Sergeant Richard
Briers said: "This was an act
parently trying to commit sui-

for the prosecution, told the court. Malka told police: "I have killed my angel." He had left an elaborate trail of blood, knives,pills and hleach to make it seem as if he had tried to kill

Malka said the couple had decided to die after returning to Europe from Goa in India, where they met, because they thought they could not stay together.

But Mr Water said the real reason behind her death was that she had decided to end



S Repub ofter line

o damagi ar-olds



her murde

Speaking in Swahili, a lodge employee, Joseph Sakarti, assured Mr Makallah, "God is

Ms Ward, 28, was killed.

Simon ole Makaliah and chat-

ted with him while he waited to

enter the makeshift courtroom

The defendant, now an as-

Wildlife Service, was the Masai

Mara reserve's chief game war-

den and lived at the camp when

PARK RANGERS and staff at a BY GEORGE MWANGI in Masai Mara, Kenya

»back to murder scene

Julie Ward court goes

lodge warmly welcomed the man charged with the murder with you", while his colleague, of a British tourist when the Simon Tolu, consoled with, court moved yesterday to the

"God will help you". Mr Makaliah, 49, was in the Masai Mara game reserve where the remains of Julie group of searchers which found Ward were found 11 years ago. Some of the workers at the Keekorok Lodge hugged

the mutilated and charred remains of Ms Ward in the southeastern corner of the reserve on a convoy of six vehicles to sev-13 September, 1988. Officials eral locations. These included determined she may have been killed up to six days earlier. Her father, John Ward, a

sistant director of the Kenya hotelier who has spent a perkiller to justice, began his testimony last week in Nairobi in the second trial over her death. In the first trial in 1992 of two park rangers charged with Ms Ward's death, Mr Makallah was

a prosecution witness. The rangers were acquitted for a lack of evidence, and the judge criticised police for conducting a flawed investigation.

In a quick session yesterday, the prosecution put Mr Ward in a witness box to remind him he was still under oath, before the court and journalists moved in a post office near the lodge where Mr Ward said he had received a report radioed in by Mr Makallah that his daughter's resonal fortune trying to bring her mains had been found, and a campsite where Ms Ward and two male friends had stayed

Today the court will travel to the spot where Ms Ward's ve-

# Ingles Giuliani feels need the heat after custody death

ALREADY UNDER siege over the shooting of an unarmed black immigrant in the Bronx seven weeks ago, the New York City police department faced fresh turmoil yesterday as the trial opened of five officers accused of beating and torturing a Haitian citizen while in custody.

The political atmosphere in the city has already been electrified by of the Bronx shooting. In that incident, an immigrant from Guinea, Amadou Diallo, was shot in the hall of his apartment building. The four white officers fired 41 bullets; Diallo was struck by 19 bullets and died instantly.

Protests have been staged daily outside police headquarters in Manhattan, with the Rev Al Sharpton, the black rights advocate, leading those accusing the police department of racial harassment and human rights abuses. The crisis has engulfed Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who rose to national prominence on the crime-fighting issue.

The last of the daily Diallo protests - which have led to about 1,000 arrests - was held yesterday. Mr Sharpton vowed, however, to bring his followers to the Brooklyn courthouse throughout the torture and beating trial

Thus, there is no relief in sight for Mayor Giuliani, who has been tipped to run for a US Senate seat next year, possibly against Hillary Clinton. That aspiration may now be in doubt. however, with a new poll showing his approval rating slumping to just 40 per cent, from 60 per cent six months ago.

The Brooklyn trial centres on the case of Abner Louima, a Haitian. Prosecutors will allege that two years ago, four officers beat him inside a squad car, while later two of them sodomised him with the wooden handle of a plunger inside a Brooklyn precinct station. A fifth officer is accused of cov-

ering up for his colleagues. The Louima case became the first symbol of a long-simmering grievance among New York's minority communities:

publican Party in the United

ination if George Bush Jnr fal-

ters, says that the party should

return to its pre-1980 position, when it expressed opposition to

abortion but acknowledged it as

a question of conscience where

down the gauntlet to local party

organisations, especially in the

south, which have made ab-

solute opposition to abortion a

Mr McCain was throwing

there were differing views.

should be toned down.

States has warned that its hard-

BY DAVID USBORNE in New York

approach to busting crime had given licence to the police department to trample on normal human rights and civil liberties Minority leaders contend that police officers on the streets systematically target innocent young blacks and Hispanics. The most common complaint is that officers habitually subject young non-whites to a so-called 'stop-and-frisk" while showering them with racist epithets. Officers need only the firmsiest of pretexts for slamming citizens against a wall or onto the

pavement to search them. The Louima trial could last until the summer Some fear that acquittals in the case could lead to racial tensions in New York boiling over, perhaps triggering riots of the kind in Los Angeles that followed the police beating of Rodney King, a black



Giuliani: Policies cause rift with ethnic minorities



**US Republican urges** 

softer line on abortion

funding to candidates for polit-

New Jersey, severely limited

The party caucuses have

the determining voice in the selection of the presidential can-

didate, and for a generation a

firm anti-abortion line has been

the first hurdle for any aspiring

candidate. In 1996, the party

went further, saying that unborn

children "have a fundamental

individual right to life which

Mr McCain's comments

cannot be infringed".

embrace of the zero-tolerance and sodomised by police

ONE OF the leading presidential candidates from the Rein Washington

line stance against abortion ical office. The "pro-choice" may damage its chances in stance of Christine Whitman,

next year's elections and the Republican governor of

zona, who is regarded as a dark she was re-elected in 1997 by

horse who could take the nom- only the slimmest of margins.

precondition for granting party were the latest sign of a retreat

Senator John McCain of Ariher ability to solicit funds, and

motorist. Prosecutors contend that Mr Louima was hospitalised for two months after the assaults and treated for a damaged bladder and perforated

Among those representing Mr Louima will be Barry Scheck and Johnnie Cochran, hoth veterans of the OJ Simpson defence team. So far, however, the unrest in New York has been confined to political rhetoric, the daily protests and acts of civil disobedience outside police headquarters. Among those who have been arrested in the Diallo protests, and then released, have been Mr Sharpton himself, former New York mayor David Dinkins, the Rev Jesse Jackson and Susan Sarandon, the actress.

Anger over the Diallo shooting may ease slightly tomorrow. when the Bronx District Attorney is expected to confirm that all four of the officers involved will be charged with second-degree murder. The unsealing of the charges was delayed for two days to allow Diallo's parentsto travel from overseas to witness the charges being filed.

Mayor Giuliani has only in the last few days attempted to heal the rift between himself and the city's minority leaders. Many observers believe that he has moved too late, however. Whether this will destroy him, I doubt it," remarked former mayor Ed Koch, a staunch critic of Mr Giuliani. "But it certainly has injured his reputation and his place in history."

Also in the political cauldron is Howard Safir, the New York City police commissioner. His chances of survival have not been helped by the exposure in the tabloid newspapers of a trip he took to the Oscar ceremony, at the expense of a leading cosmetics company, when the Diallo crisis was at its peak Last Friday, Mr Safir annonneed reforms to the Street Crime Unit, to which the four efficers in the Diallo case belooged. He plans to recrait 60. new officers to the team - all of them from ethnic minerities and has decreed that uniforms that the Mayor's widely-touted Louissa: Allegedly beaten be worn at all times during

> from this position. The last presidential election showed a wide gender gap in the Repub-

> lican vote, with many fewer

women voting for Bob Dole

than men, and abortion was

seen as one factor. Both leading

candidates for the Republican

nomination - George Bush Jur

and Elizabeth Dole - have

stayed away from committing

An alteration in the party's

stance on abortion would be the

first real evidence that the in

fluence of the religious right

was starting to wane. A pre

cursor was the American pub

lic's response to the Monica

Lewinsky affair, where at

tempts by the party to cam-

paign on a strictly moralistic

platform were a hability in last

themselves on the issue.



A youth injured in clashes with police is carried into the Senate to be greeted by Paraguay's new president (wearing a sash)

## Paraguay's new leader vows to end violence

AS FEARS of a military coup subsided, Paraguay's new President, Luis Gonzalez Macchi, pledged yesterday to attack the country's endemic poverty and bring to an end five days of violence that forced the resignation of his predecessor, Raul Cubas.

Latin America Correspondent

Mr Gonzalez Macchi, 51, previously speaker of the Senate, took over after the surprise resignation of Mr Cubas on Sunday night. Tens of thousands of Paraguayans immediately took

parture, wrapping themselves in the national flag and singing the anthem; they let off fireworks and honked their horns into

the early bours of yesterday. Violence had erupted on the streets following the assassination last Tuesday of vice-pres-

to the streets to celebrate his de-ident Luis Maria Argana, 66. The General Lino Oviedo, of orderkilling happened in broad daying the killing as part of a power light in the capital, Asuncion, struggle within the long-ruling and during weekend violence four anti-Cubas demonstrators were killed and 100 wounded. Most Paraguayans, including the Congress, accused Mr

Colorado party. Mr Cubas denied involvement and said he had resigned in an effort to restore calm in the country amid rumours of a Cubas and his military mentor, military coup.





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# Kidnappings boom in lawless Gaza

A COOK in a seafood restaurant BY PATRICK COCKBURN overlooking the Mediterranean in Gaza in Gaza might imagine he was not employed in a dangerous trade. But Rafiq Yusuf Abu Hasira, working in the popular Salaam restaurant in the centre of the city, found that even a life devoted to preparing fish alleged links to the drugs trade. and shrimp did not save him from the spreading tentacles of have a more prosaic explana-the 11 Palestinian security tion. Military Intelligence

napped by Palestinian Military Intelligence, headed by Moussa Arafat, a cousin of the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat. Jocular stories circulated in Gaza about intelligence offi-

cers objecting to the quality of the food they were served in the Salaam. By another account Mr Abu Hasira's detention was connected to his late brother's

wanted \$50,000 (£31,000) to let A month ago he was kid- Mr Abu Hasira go. They never got it. The Salaam is the favourite eating place of foreign diplomats visiting Gaza and the story of the abduction became well known. On 8 March

telligence has carried out 20 kidnappings of local businessmen and refused to release them except for cash. Not surprisingly, many potential targets now only move outside their houses accompanied by

The kidnapping turned out to armed bodyguards. "Power in Gaza is flowing to the security services," says one diplomat. "You only do business with their permission." Just at the moment when Mr Arafat is threatening to declare a Palestinian state on 4 May, the civil institutions of his Palestinian Authority are disintegrating. Ministries, courts

He was lucky. Foreign diplo- and even Mr Arafat's political businessman in Nablus, a town was seen by *The Independent*. mats estimate that Military In- organisation, Fatah, are mar- on the West Bank using an It is a nasty case. Colonel Abu organisation, Fatah, are mar- on the West Bank, using an It is a nasty case. Colonel Abu

Mr Arafat has always ruled

through multiple and competing security services. His methods in Gaza are little different from those in Beirut 20 years ago. The result is a luxuriant growth of security services, ranging from Preventive Security, the most powerful, to General Intelligence, Force 17, the presidential guard and the Special Security Services. There is even a naval intelligence, though Mr Arafat has no navy. Small in size, even this organisation is to be feared. In 1996 it tortured to death a local

lectric water heater.

The security services ignore the court system. In 1995 Mr Arafat set up special state security courts which supersede the judicial system. Trial is by military officers, is held in secret and there is no appeal, though the Palestinian leader can confirm, increase or reduce prison terms. The special courts also pass death sentences. Exactly how these special se-

curity courts operate is illustrated by the trial of Colonel Ahmad Abu Mustapha, a member of the Palestinian border guards, a video tape of which

Mustapha, 54, a Bedouin, was on trial accused of raping a sixyear-old boy named Saed Abu Shamaleh in Gaza last month. The victim picked him out at an

identity parade.

Proceedings are summary. A witness for the prosecution gives a rambling account of what he knows. There is no cross-questioning. Col Abu Mustapha vigorously denies the charges. He says be was at home asleep when the rape took place. He adds: "I never saw this boy before in my life. I didn't do this. The court isn't

if he is about to collapse, pleads with the three grim-faced Palestinian officers judging him. He asks them to re-open the investigation. One of the officers says: "Don't give a speech." Col Abu Mustapha replies: "I am not giving a speech. I m asking the court to reinvestigate. If I had done it I would have gone to the

court myself." He does not finish his plea. One of the blue-uniformed policemen standing behind him in the dock places his hands on Col Abu Mustapha's shoulders and forces him back into his

Col Abu Mustapha is not

Col Abu Mustopha, looking as kept long in suspense over his fate. After a brief adjournment the judges return. They give him 15 years' hard labour for the rape. But for the peculiar offence of "motivating people against the Palestinian Authority" they sentence him to execution by firing squad. There is applause in the court

in the south and and

The colonel looks stunned. He looks down as the camera zooms in on his face and a policeman jerks his head back so the cameraman can get a better shot. A few hours later Mr Arafat confirmed the sentence and Col Abu Mustapha was shot

## Winnie stakes claim to the family home

IT IS a humble township ad- By ALEX DUVAL SMITH dress - Vilakazi Street, Sowe- in Johannesburg to - but a group of people, including Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, are headed for the highest court in South Africa to prove ownership of it.

The small house, where Neiwife, Evelyn, and where he brought Winnie after their maryear by the South African Pres-

who for two years has run a mu- Africa and the world." seum on the site, claims it was not his to give away, especially since the "navels" - umbilical cords - of her children are huried there. She claims that ident to get ber out." the trust and the President are conspiring against her.

(50p), tourists and Soweto residents can see the house where President Mandela hegan his African National Congress career, and to which he returned after his release from jail in 1990.

"Winnie Mandela and Family claims that the council sale, in Museum". The museum has 1997, was illegal. She says the 1,000 visitors a month and, at the back of the house, visitors may buy souvenirs, including buy the property.

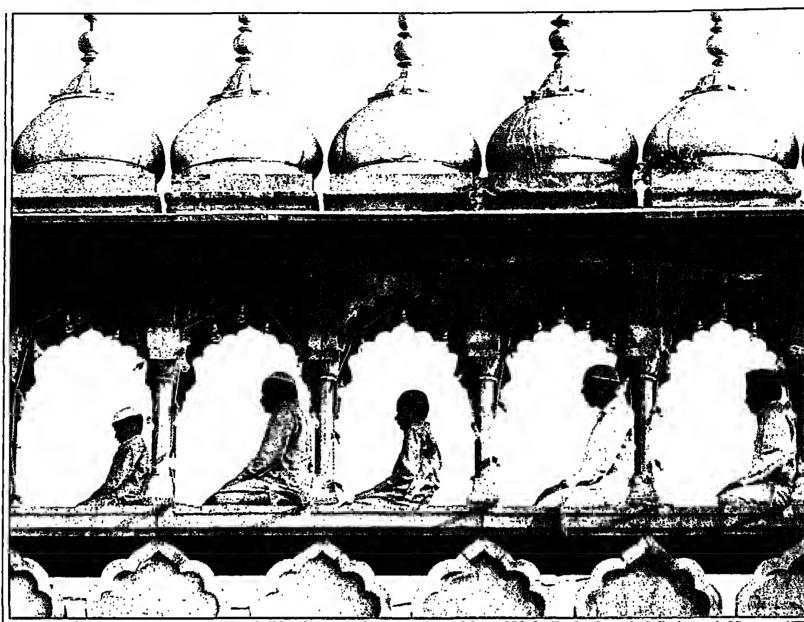
soil from the property. Ms Madikizela-Mandela lives in a grander Soweto house some

The trust which controls son Mandela lived with his first several sites linked to the struggle against apartheid claims the house is the property of "the riage in 1958, was given last people of the world". Sydney Phuti, chief executive of the ident to the Soweto Heritage trust, said: "The place is not meant for one person. It be-The President's former wife, longs to the people of South

A spokesman for Ms Madikizela-Mandela said: "Winnie is the defendant. The trust has made a deal with the Pres-

In a country where for years hlack people could not legally Meanwhile, for five rand own property - except in government-created "homelands" - this is not a clear-cut

case. The trust says that when President Mandela handed over Vilakazi Street he had bought it from Soweto council. The plaque by the door says But Ms Madikizela-Mandela council did not deal properly with her 1985 application to



Prayers at the Jana Masjid mosque in New Delhi, India, yesterday as Muslims celebrated Id al-Adha for the end of pilgrimage to Mecca

## 87 killed in India quake

BY SUNIL KATARIA in Rudraprayng, India

AT LEAST 87 people were yes-terday reported killed after an earthquake rocked the Himalayan foothills. Officials fear the final death toll could rise

into the hundreds. The quake, which was felt across northern India, western Nepal and southern China, brought down houses on thou-

sands of people as they slept The first tremor, measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale. came at 12.35am yesterday morning.

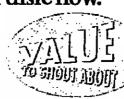
Officials expect the number of casualties to rise because the tremors devastated houses in Chamoli, a semi-urban area of 50.000 people, and the neighhouring district of Rudraprayag. Both were close to the epicentre in the Garhwa hills,

Police said rescue efforts were hampered by a series of post-quake landslides in the region, which is dotted with the villages of subsistence hill-farmers.

The earthquake appeared to be the strongest in the Himalayan foothills in 94 years. In April 1905, an earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale killed thousands in neighbouring Himachal Pradesh state. In 1991, at least 1,600 people died when the area was hit by a quake mea-

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# River bank floats along bringing flow of deposits

WHILE MOST of Thailand's banks are nervously navigating the treacherous waters of Asia's higgest financial crisis, one small hranch is still afloat and flourishing. Literally. Six days a week a faded blue-and-white vessel plies the canals of the Chao Phraya river in Bangkok, bearing baht to its waterside dwellers come

rain or shine. The 30-foot boat belongs to the Government Savings Bank (GSB), which prides itself on being the "people's bank" and on bringing banking services to the remotest of communities.

The staff of this particular branch need more than a head for figures. On a rainy day the boat lurches alarmingly, causing even the manager, Danai Makolek, to turn a little green as he signs withdrawal slips on a seesawing surface. "If it gets really bad I go and sit on the roof and look into the distance," he says.

The engine makes a beadsplitting roar and the stuffy cabin is cramped and clut- then extends a long bamboo

CITY LIFE BANGKOK

tered but at least there's no fear of getting caught in one of Bangkok's notorious traffic jams. The 5,000 or so riverside customers are always in a good mood too - no need to worry about parking the car or standing in a queue when the bank stops at the bottom of the

Mr Makplek loves the job. "I go to the customers instead of them coming to me and I get to meet them all. I feel a lot freer than in the office." Customers indicate they

would like a visit by sticking a bank-issue hlue flag on a pole outside their wooden houses, which stand above the river on stilts. As the boat approaches, they saunter barefoot to the end of their jetties or wade through the ankle-deep murky brown water sloshing over their front steps. A bank clerk pole towards them with a red plastic sieve on the end, into which they drop their savings and bank book.

Anyone over the age of six can open an account with the GSB with as little as one baht less than half a pence. Many of the students, housewives, farmers and monks who live along the river have less than a pound in their accounts: the wealthiest has up to £16,000. Some dispense with the flag, paddling up to the side of the bank in a small wooden boat and handing their earnings

over the side. Being a state-run bank, the GSB has not done badly during the recession, with customers regarding it as a safer option to commercial banks. In 1997, when the crisis kicked in, it managed to mobilise more savings than the previous year. Last year it decided to attract

ing a branch in a school. The experiment was a huge success, with a thousand students depositing almost £3,000 between them in the first two weeks.

The river bank has been serving its customers for 45 years. On this particular day. when the abbot of one of the many temples dotted along the canals requests a visit, all the bank's staff members, minus the captain, disembark and make their way to his house. Shedding our shoes outside the door, we enter a gloomy room piled high with dusty books and Buddha images. As we kneel on the floor and bow, be explains that be wisbes to withdraw £3,300 from the temple's account for renovations. But he has mislaid his savings book. Could the bank stop again tomorrow?

After more kneeling and bowing, we file out reverently, relieved to know that at least some of Bangkok's citizens still have money to play with. SARAH STRICKLAND

## Suu Kyi rejects funeral 'offer'

AUNG SAN Suu Kyi, Burma's op-position leader, will not accept the offer by Burma's military government to let her travel to Britain for the funeral of her husband because she does not believe she would be allowed to return, diplomats said.

Ms Suu Kyi's husband. Michael Aris, a professor of Tibetan studies at Oxford University, died of prostate cancer in the Churchill Hospital in London on Saturday, his 53rd birthday. The military government had refused to grant him a visa to visit Burma to see his wife for the last time.

The government told Ms Suu Kyi, winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, that it would guarantee she would be allowed to return to Burma pro-vided she conducted no political activities while abroad. Ms Sun Kyi spurned the offer. Her aides said she did not helieve the military government, which they pointed out has a history of not bonouring its promises. It did not recognise the results of a 1990 national election

which Ms Suu Kyi's party won. After her husband's death, the military government renewed its offer to allow her to travel to Britain for the funeral But Ms Suu Kyi will not accept the offer, still believing the government will not allow her to return to Burma

She will hold a Buddhist ceremony for her husband on

#### IN BRIEF

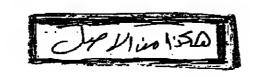
Malaria infects 1.5 million Yemenis MALARIA HAS killed about 15,000 people in Yemen within the past year and nearly 1.5 million people - or 10 per cent of the population – are suffering from the disease, Yemen's health minister said yesterday. About 95 per cent of the patients are suffering from a virulent form of malaria

known as falciparum, Abdullah Abd al-Wali Nashir said. New case of BSE found in France

THE EIGHTH case this year of bovine spongiform encephalopathy - mad cow disease - has been detected in south-western France, officials said yesterday. The milk cow, born in February 1995, was from a herd in L'Aveyron. The herd of 156 cows was slaughtered and incinerated over the weekend, the Agriculture Ministry said.

China gets tough on fake Viagra

THE CHINESE government has ordered tougher measures to halt sales and production of take versions of the impotency pill, Viagra. The State Drug Administration had issued an order to local offices to root out copies of American-made Viagra and to confiscate and destroy them, the state-run Xinhua News Agency said.



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Deputy Business & City Editor, Michael Harrison News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098

# BUSINESS

#### **BRIEFING**

M&\$ to cut 200 head office jobs

MARKS & SPENCER yesterday announced that 200 jobs will believed in the buying and store development functions at its Baker Street, London head office as the new chief executive, Peter Salsbury, continues streamlining the business. Mr Salsbury said: "The changes being implemented are essential to run our business in a more efficient, flexible and responsive way. We are confident this new structure will have a positive impact on communications and decision-making throughout M&S: improving the service and products we offer customers by giving more responsibility to managers closest to them."

French Connection ahead in style



SHARES IN French Connection jumped 105p to 485p as the fashion chain reported a 27 per cent rise in full-year profits and a 30 per cent dividend hike.

Stephen Marks, the chief executive (pictured). said trading was "pretty good" in very difficult market conditions. He said that with worldwide brand recognition for both French

Connection and Nicole Farhi rising, the group is planning "further considerable expansion", especially in the US and Australia, but also in Europe.

For the year to 31 January the company reported pre-tax profits of £10.4m against £8.2m a year earlier, leading to a final dividend of 3.25p, giving a total payout of 4.25p against 3.25p.

Bemrose to return £43m after sale

BEMROSE plans to sell its US supplier division to Norwood for £80m and return £43m to shareholders via a special £1a-share dividend, the printing and promotional products company said. It will seek to buy back up to 10 per cent of its shares after a 13-for-20 consolidation. Dealings in new ordinary shares, after consolidation, will start on 17 May. The US business has not shown enough growth due to a weak performance by the calendar business, it said. Bemrose shares hit 370p before closing up 31.5p at 329p.

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	NINGOSI
300	10100	15400
5200	9900	8000
100	9700	5600
T W T F M	9500 T W 1 F M	15200 T. W. T. F.

7 10 1	_ M.	T W	1 F	M T	. W. T. 1	M
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ledest	Close	Change C	mage(%)	52 wk Mgh 5	2 wk low Y	·H(K)
FISE 100	6252.90	113.70	1.85	6365.40	4599.20	2.50
FTSE 250	5469.40	15.50	0.28	5970.90	4247,60	3.14
FTSE 350	2973.70	47.00	1.81	3074.90	2210.40	2,60
FTSE All Share	. 2878.34	43.30	1.53	2923.83	2143.53	2.65
FTSE SmallCap	2394.50	. 0.20	0.01	2793.80	1834.40	3.62
FTSE Fledgling	1301.70	3.20	0.25	1517,10	1046.20	4.08
ETEE AIAS	856 70	5.30	0.67	1145 90	761 30	1 14

FISE Heaging	1301.70	3.20	0.25	1517.10	_1046.20	<u> 4.U8</u>
FTSE AIM	864,70	5,30	0.62	1146.90	761,30	1,74
FTSE Eurocop 10	0 2912.21	'55.00	1.93	3079.27	2018,15	2.00
FTSE Eurotop 30	1256.77	19.11	1.54.	1332.07	880.63	1.92
Dow Jones	9978.47	158.18	1.61	10085.31	7400.30	1,59
Nakkel	16008.84	8.15	-0.05	17009.89	12787.90.	.0.84
Hang Seng	10688.47	-114.84	-1.06	11874.74	6544.79	3.34
Dant	4876,92	101.75	2.13	6217.83	3833.71	1.67
56P 500	1305.74	22.82	1.78	1323.88	923.32	1.23
r dag	2469.47	50.45	2.09	. 2533.44	.1357.09	0.28
Ryanto 300	6657,30	22,40.	0.34		5320.90	1.59
Brazil Bovespa	10857.02	-8.42	-0.08	12339.14	4575.69	4.98
Belgium Bel20	3254.37	26.42	0.82	3713.21	.2696.26	2.02
Amsterdam Exch	534,56	9.00	1.71	600.65	366.58	T.83
France CAC 40	4153.65	37_94	0,92	4404.94	2881.21	1.74
Milan MIB30	36493.00	843.00	2.37	39170.00	24175.00.	1.0€
Madrid Ibex 35	9748.10	89.00	0.92	10989.80	6869.90	1,80
Isish Overall	5252.96	-3.23	-0,06	5581.70	3732.57	1.59

SHORT STERLING	UK 10 YEAR GILT	US LONG BOND
SHOK! SIEKEMO		
5.04	4.56	5.03
5.00		5.60
5.00	1.52	5.55
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Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	. 10 year	Yr chg	Lang bond	Yr che
-UK	5.34	-2.25	5.25	-2.34		-1.38		-1.31
	5.00	-0.69	5.25	-0.63		-	5.64	
Japan	0.19	-0.56	0.26	-0.45	1.82	-0.07	2.54	0.07
				0.50	- A-OF	200	5.05	-0.42

\$/E	€/E	W/E
1.640	1.510	196
1630	1.506	192
1.620	1.502	190
1610 F M	1.498 T F M	TWTF

POUND				DOI		
ar Spot	Change	"Yr Age		nt Spen	Crusta	'Yr Ago
1.6148	-0.62c	1.6772	Sterling	0.6193	+0.24p	0.5962
				0.9327	-14.15c	0,8571
			Yen	119.71	<b>-40.60</b>	131.97
103.80	-0.10	108.30	S index	108.80	-0.10	109.30
	1,6148 1,5062 193,35	1,6148 -0,62c 1,5062 -0,20c 193,35 -¥1.65	Ar Span Change 'Yr Age 1.6148 -0.62c 1.6772 1.5062 -0.20c 1.4079 193.35 -V1.65 221.20	1.6148 -0.62c 1.6772 Sterling   1.5062 -0.20c 1.4079 Euro   193.35 -V1.65 221.20 Yen	at 5pm         Change         *Yr Age         at 5pm           1.6148         -0.62c         1.6772         Sterling         0.6193           1.5062         -0.20c         1.4079         Euro         0.9327           193.35         -¥1.65         221.20         Yen         119.71	At Span         Change         "Vr Age         at Span         Change           1.6148         -0.62c         1.6772         Sterling         0.6193         +0.24p           1,5062         -0.20c         1.4079         Euro         0.9327         -14.15c           193.35         -W1.65         221.20         Yen         119.71         -W0.60

	OT	HE	RIN	DI	CAT	O F	(5	
	Gose		Yr Ago		indus.	Og	Yr ago	Next Age
			18.91	GDP	115.40	3.00	112.04	Mar
CALCAL CO	200.65	1.00	14.91 302.25	RPI	163.70	2.10	160.33	Mar
ilver (S)		0.04	6.38	Base	Rates	5.50		Oil at Spin

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

TO	URIS	T RATES	
			14,2
lustralia (\$)	2,4720 20,08	Mexican (nuevo peso) Netherlands (guilders)	3.216
vistria (schillings) Belgium (francs)	59.00	New Zealand (\$)	2.909
anada (S)	2.3878	Norway (kroner) Portugal (escudos)	12.2 291.1
yprus (pounds)	0.8428 10.94	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.904
Jenmark (kroner)	10.54	Singapore (S)	2.673

	Australia (>)	2.4720		3.216
	Austria (schillings)	20.08	Netherlands (guilders)	
		59.00	New Zealand (\$)	2.90
	Belgium (Francs)	2,3878	Norway (kroner)	12.2
	Canada (S)		Portugal (escudos)	291.1
	Cyprus (pounds)	0.8428	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5,90
	Denmark (kroner)	10.94	Salice Viscos (ress)	2.67
	Finland (markka)	8.7265	Singapore (\$)	
		9.5921	South Africa (rands)	9.678
	France (trancs)	2.8710	Spain (pesetas)	2 <u>42.9</u>
	Germany (marks)		Sweden (kronor)	13.1
	Greece (drachma)	474.63	Sweden (Acres)	2.340
	Hong Kong (S)	12.19	Switzerland (francs)	54.9
		1.1483	Thalland (bahts)	_
ı	reland (punts)	61,74	Turkey (lirasl)	<u>57515</u>
	dian (rupees)		USA (S)	1.584
	ISTABL (Shekels)	6.0768	03.10/	•
	Italy (lira)	2842	Rates for indication purp	VISES O
	Japan (yen)	191.12	Rates for indication purp	
		5.8532		
	Malaysia (ringgits)	0.6233	Source: Thomas Cook	-
	Males (Res)	U.UE 00		

# Kosovo effect sends euro plummeting to record low

THE EURO sank to another By LRA PATERSON record low against the dollar yesterday as fears over the escalating action in Kosovo prompted a flight to safety in the financial markets.

The new European currency is set to weaken further in the coming days amid continued uncertainty in the former Yugoslavia, analysts said, with some predicting that the European currency could fall to as low as \$1.05.

Yesterday, the euro slipped to \$1.068, its lowest rate yet and almost 10 per cent below its post-launch highs. Against ster-ling, which like the dollar is seen as a safe haven in times of political uncertainty, the euro set a new low of 66.05p.

"Kosovo is the straw that is breaking the camel's back," said Paul Meggyesi, currency analyst at Deutsche Bank.

Ken Wattret, economist at Paribas, said: "The Kosovo situation had a pronounced effect on the euro at the end of last week. The markets are looking for a safe haven, and at the moment that's the US dollar. The euro zone is perhaps a bit

to close to Kosovo for geographical comfort."

The crisis in Kosovo is the latest development to hit the euro, which, contrary to market expectations, has weakened substantially since its launch. Public bickering between the European Central Bank (ECB) and the former German finance

Atlantic Richfield (Arco) is set to value the US oil company at more than \$26bn (£16bn) after a new bout of merger fever caused a sharp rise in share prices on both sides of the Atlantic vesterday

unveiled tomorrow or on Thursday following board meetings of the two oil companies. It will turn BP Amoco into the world's second-biggest oil major behind Exxon-Mobil.

BP Amoco shares surged 4 per cent on confirmation of the weeks ago of the entire Euro-

#### BP Amoco bid powers stock markets higher

BP AMOCO'S takeover of By MICHAEL HARRISON

The all-share deal is due to be

helped undermine the curren- historic movements in the cur- speculation of a cut in European cy, as did the resignation two rencies of the 11 participating

Growing concerns over the prospects for European growth e also prompted investors to switch away from the new currency and into the surging US dollar. Research carried out by analysts at Deutsche Bank which calculated "theoretical"

merger talks, helping the FTSE 100 index of leading shares to close 113.7 points higher at 6,252.9 BP Amoco is the biggest constituent in the index, which was also boosted by takeover speculation in the pharmaceuticals and publishing sectors.

Shares in Arco rose by more than 10 per cent to \$72.75, helping drive the Dow Jones higher. The BP Amoco offer had been expected to value Arco at about \$77, but the rise in its own share year's £80bn link-up of BP and price may raise this to above \$80.

countries - suggests the euro is

now close to decade lows. Mr Meggyesi said: "Inview that, from a financial perspective, Europe is not a safe place to be in."

Recent comments by ECB officials, together with new evidence of slowing activity on

The merger is expected to

produce cost savings of around

\$1bn, principally through ratio-

nalising their joint operations in

Alaska where BP Amoco and

Arco operate the Prudhoe Bay

field. Arco has already pledged

to trim costs by \$500m under a

rationalisation plan that will

a goodwill write-off of up to

\$6bn as the deal will be classed

as a takeover under interna-

tional accounting rules. Last

Amoco was classed a merger.

But there is also likely to be

cost 1,200 jobs.

interest rates at the ECB's next meeting on 8 April.

deal, describing the two com-panies as a good fit and praising

the BP Amoco chief executive,

Sir John Browne, for stealing a

into major regulatory hurdles as

Arco's petrol retailing is fo-

cused on the US West Coast,

where it has 1,700 stations and

a 26 per cent of the California

market BP Amoco's operations

are mainly on the East Coast

Outlook, page 15

and in the Mid West.

The deal is unlikely to run

march on Royal Dutch Shell.

Issing, ECB chief economist, vestors are currently of the warned that growth in the euro zone was weakening significantly. Meanwhile, a survey of business confidence released in France revealed a sharperthan-expected drop in opti-

mism. The latest INSEE minister. Oskar Lafontaine, past values of the euro using the Continent, have fuelled industrial survey suggested

Marian Bell at Royal Bank of Over the weekend Otmar Scotland said: "There does seem to be pressure building for the ECB to cut [rates] and it may get to the point where

that's hard to resist." In the UK, expectations of interest-rate cuts are also building, and yesterday's weak consumer credit data fuelled hopes that the Monetary Policy Com-

mittee will reduce the cost of borrowing again at its meeting next week Net UK consumer credit Analysts united yesterday in rose by a lower-than-expected £935m last month, a figure that welcoming the BP Amoco-Arco tied in with February's disap-

tivity contracted this month.

pointing retail sales, analysts said. There was also a small downward revision to the annual growth rate of M4, the broad measure of money

Separate figures published by the Bank of England revealed that the number of new mortgage approvals rose to 87,000, the highest since June last year. Analysts said the data suggested that the housing market was continuing to improve.

**Olivetti** 

raises

Italia

bid for

**Telecom** 

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

OLIVETTI, the reformed elec-

tronics group, yesterday raised the stakes in the battle for Tele-

com Italia by lifting its bostile bid for the former state monopoly by

The increased offer, which Olivetti stressed was its final bid.

is conditional on Telecom share holders rejecting all the poison

pill defence mechanisms being

proposed by Franco Bernabe,

Telecom's managing director. The cash, bonds and shares

offer values Telecom shares at

11.5 curos each, compared to the

previous offer of 10 euros. The

new bid is more than 50 per cept

above the Telecom share price when rumours of Olivetti's bid

Roberto Colaninno, Olivetti's

chief executive, said the offer

was the group's final offer. "You

don't start by giving your defin-

itive offer straight away, but I can

tell you that this is now our de-

first started circulating.

15 per cent to 60.4bn euros.

#### Industry demands energy tax let-out

BY DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor** 

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST energy users are seeking an exemption from the new climate change levy proposed in this month's Budget in return for signing binding agreements to improve their energy efficiency. **Industry** representatives

reduction in the energy tax proposed by the Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott at a meeting yesterday. "We are disappointed the Government has linked energy

rejected the offer of a 50 per cent

tax, and we are looking for a zero rate of tax." said Graham Funnell, head of environmental policy at the UK Steel Association, one of nine sectors represented at the meeting. But Mr Prescott said industry had already benefited from

for the climate change levy in return for commitments to environmental gain," he said. The objections to the envi-

substantial reductions in energy prices. "Companies will be able to exchange part of their liability



Graham Steele, Motorail managing director, launching a new private-sector Motorail venture four years after British Rail axed it. The service, to Scotland, aims at taking 20,000 cars off the roads each year John Vo

row between the Government of UK manufacturers." and road baptiers over vehicle excise duty for heavy lorries announced in the Budget.

Lisa Waters, economic adviser to the Energy Intensive Users Group (EIUG), said: "It is important people understand it was not a win, win Budget. It was lose, lose if you work in manu-

into force in April 2001, follow the this tax on the competitiveness to industry through a reduction panies that meet their energy The Department of Environ-

ment, Transport and the Regions and Treasury are to hold further meetings after Easter with industry representatives, including steel, chemicals, paper, glass

and food manufacturing. One of the objections is that the climate change levy is not facturing. The Government has fiscally neutral. Although the ronmental tax, which comes failed to grasp the effects of revenues raised will be returned

in employers' national insurance contributions, most energy-in-

relatively few people.

British Steel estimated that in the worst case the levy would cost the company £200-300m, compared with a £5m saving on its national insurance bill.

The industries are also alarmed that the Government plans to impose the tax on com-

use targets. This would raise costs at a time when many manufacturers are struggling with the effects of the strong pound and recession in important markets overseas. Some of their biggest foreign

competitors are also unburdened by efforts to meet the international climate change targets. These include China. Brazil, Korea and India.

#### finitive offer," he said. Olivetti's move comes just two days after Telecom announced plans to spend 23bn euros in cash buying the 40 per cent of Telecom Italia Mobile, its mobile subsidiary, that it doesn't already own. Telecom had planned to offer shares for the

The plan, which needs approval from 30 per cent of shareholders at a meeting scheduled for end-April, would increase Telecom's size, making it im-possible for Olivetti to fund a bid. But Karel van Miert, European competition commissioner, yesterday cast further doubt over Telecom's plan when he said an integration of the fixed line and mobile businesses would raise competition problems.

stake, but switched its bid to cash after shareholders' pressure.

Olivetti's new offer consists of 6.92 euros in cash and 2.90 euros in bonds for each Telecom share. with shares in the Olivetti subnancial house, received a 28 per | sidiary Tecnost accounting for

## Lucas Varity chief gets £4m pay-off

VICTOR RICE, the controversial chief executive of Lucas-Varity is to leave the car parts and aerospace group with a payoff of over £4m following the £4hn takeover by its US rival TRW.

The surprise departure of Mr Rice, whose windfall will total £17m after proceeds of £13m-worth of share options. comes amid rumours of a personality clash with Joe Gorman. TRW's forceful chief

LONDON

FOOTSIE, encouraged by more

evidence of corporate activity,

jumped 113.7 points to 6,252.9.

Supporting shares were firm but

most of the action was directed at

blue chips. Hopes of lower interest

rates and a strong New York display

during London hours also helped

sentiment. Imperial Chemical

Industries, on hopes of a £2bn

talking merger with Atlantic

Richfield, gushed 40p to a 1,077p

disposal, led the blue chip charge

with a 34p gain to 561p. BP Amoco,

Derek Pain, page 17

come vice-chairman of the enlarged group and the head of its automotive division, following January's cash bid by TRW. However in a last-minute U-

turn. Mr Gorman is believed to have withdrawn the offer, asking Mr Rice to remain simply as a board member and a part-time consultant. The Lucas chief executive

has still not replied to Mr Gorman's proposal. But even if he Mr Rice was expected to be- accepts a reduced role, Mr Rice

NEW YORK

THE DOW JONES index climbed

158 points to 9,980, just 20 points

off the 10,000 mark by mid-after-

noon, boosted by a rising technol-

The Nasdaq gained 30 points to

ogy sector, with IBM the top

2,449, as Amazon.com gained 8

seller unveiled plans for an Inter-

net auction service, and Intel rose

2 per cent on reports the cost of

the year 2000 for the world's

largest chipmaker would be 30

per cent after the online book

gaining component.

will still receive a £4m-plus compensation package agreed in 1996 when Lucas merged with Varity. Lucas and TRW declined to

comment vesterday but industry observers said that Mr Gorman's decision is a luge blow for During the takeover negoti-

ations, he defended the TRW offer against a competing bid from Federal Mogul and repeatedly said that he wanted to play a major part in the enlarged

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

THE NIKKEI 225 closed virtually unchanged - off 0.05 per cent at

16,008.84 - after a rally supported

manufacturers ran out of steam.

ground when the new business

Japan's cash-rich pension funds

will allocate fresh money to the

Shares in Nissan Motor rose

modestly on weekend news that

the Japanese car maker and

Renault had signed an alliance.

Traders expect the average to gain

year starts on 1 April on hopes that

by gains in global blue-chip

TOKYO

market.

came after Lucas became embroiled in a row with the unions after putting its car wiring division up for sale. The AEEU engineering

The boardroom shake-up

union said the sale of the business, which employs 4,000 people in the UK, could see the closure of a plant in Houghton-le-Spring, Sunderland, with the loss of 700 jobs. Ken Jackson, the AEEU general secretary, said that he would ask the company to guarantee the future of the factory at a meeting next week.

terday that Paul Brett, the chief executive of Thomson Travel, received a £3.2m one-off payment from the publishing group Thomson Corporation. the holiday group's former owner, following last year's flotation. The chief operating officer Roger Burnell got a £1.45m windfall In another development,

Rana Talwar, the chief executive of Standard Chartered, the ficent pay rise last year to £1.09m. the balance.

HONG KONG

THE Hang Seng Index fell 1.1 per

cent to 10,6887.47 as poor results

from New World Development Co

stoked concerns that property de-

largest property developer, fell 1.9

velopers' earnings will be below

expectations. New World Devel-

opment, Hong Kong's fourth-

per cent. The tycoon Li Ka-

shipg's Cheung Kong Holdings,

which reported worse-than-ex-

land prices - fell 1.8 per cent.

pected earnings last week - also

due to large provisions for falling

PARIS THE BLUE-CHIP CAC-40 ended 0.92 per cent higher at 4,153.65, amid hesitant trade ahead of today's Federal Reserve meeting.

"The lack of a short-term trend is likely to last, with the euro at its lowest level against the dollar and the Kosovo conflict provoking splits among euro zone countries," said one strategist. Renault closed up 2.94 per cent, trailing early gains of more than 7 per cent, but recouping some recent losses, as investors were encouraged by promises of big cost savings.

per cent less than forecast.

News Analysis: On Thursday UK technology stocks get a separate sector. But is it too late, and has it been botched?

# IT sets out its own market stall

ON THURSDAY 1 April, Britain's By PETER THAL LARSEN information technology sector is awarded its own sector on the stock market. In a long-awaited move, the Stock Exchange will finally create a separate sector to house all 112 UK listed IT firms, from FTSE 100 giants smallest Aim-listed tiddler.

Stock Exchange, the date for launching the sector may have passed without comment. But many in the British IT industry may wonder whether the whole exercise is an elaborate April

Software and computer services

UK market weighting by sector

formally comes of age when it Fool. While the spirit behind the move generally wins praise, the detail has come in for intense In particular, FTSE Interna-

tional the agency which handles Stock Exchange classifications, such as Misys down to the is accused of yielding valuable ground to rival markets by wait-In the stuffy corridors of the ing until now to create the sector. It has also been criticised of trying to squeeze a fast-changing industry into narrow definitions by dividing the IT sector into six sub-sectors (see table). "It's much too late," says

THE NEW-LOOK INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

How the sector is divided

Information technology

Granville, the investment bank. "It's a couple of years since this was first discussed, and in the meantime the European markets have stolen a march on London. The whole thing feels as if it's been done incredibly

grudgingly."
Of course, London already has an IT sector of sorts. Late in 1997 – under pressure from US investors who wanted to be able to spot Britain's technology stocks and mindful of the steady flow of British companies choosing to list on the Nasdaq exchange for technology com-

Semi-conductor

FTSE Information technology Indec Jan 1998=100

Richard Donner, a director of panies - it created a sub-division of the Support Services index for

The move had an immediate impact, highlighting the relative undervaluation of British IT companies. Investors piled in. In a little over six months the index almost doubled in value.

But the boom was shortlived. The market meltdown of the autumn hauled the index back to its starting level. Only recently has the index again approached its highs.

What's more, the original sector was more notable for the companies it left out than the ones it embraced. It was essentially a software and computer services sector, including large companies such as Misys. Logica, Sema, CMG and Sage. But genuine technology comies such as Psion, the handheld computer maker, and Filtronic, the supplier of telecoms equipment, were left out.

Recent changes fix that discrepancy. By turning information technology into a so-called "economic group" with subdivisions for services and hardwould rank themselves as IT stocks have been included.

However, a further set of subdivisions has proved less popular. To almost universal amazement, FTSE International decided to create specific sub-sectors catering for Internet, semiconductor and telecoms equipment companies. What's more, the allocation of companies to these sub-sectors was questionable, to say the

Zergo, the Internet security



Not everyone welcomes the move: 'Premature, meaningless and damaging' is one analyst's view

purest Internet play was left out. premature and meaningless, So was JSB, the supplier of software that allows companies to keep tabs on how their employees use the Net. Meanwhile Dialog, the online information supplier, was added.

"Companies are in that secware, most companies that tor when it's difficult to see which bit of the Internet they're in," says Rob Barrow, JSB's chief executive. He points out that Nasdaq does not attempt to ter understanding of the classify its members in this way. "The Internet sector is

going to be like herding cats." FTSE International says classification decisions are made purely on the basis of where companies derive profits. But others wonder whether there is any point in classifying companies in this way. "The creation of a UK

rest of the world. At the moment, the differences are noticeable; for example, true Internet stocks are much more highly rated in the US than in the UK.

but downright damaging," says Richard Holway, a leading IT

industry analyst. "It will distort

share prices and could even

mean death for emerging com-

panies unable to survive the

Ultimately, the IT sector will

inevitable massive share price

be judged by how successful it

is in leading investors to a bet-

industry. In order to attract the

listings of FT companies and help

them to grow, ratings in London

will have to be on a par with the

Despite anecdotal evidence

that institutional investors are

group that is arguably the UK's Internet sub-sector is not only now better informed about IT than they were a year ago, the competition is fierce. Nasdaq is powering ahead and a cluster of new markets catering for highgrowth companies have sprung up in continental Europe, attracting investors.

Euro NM, the loose association of European stock markets set up only a few years ago, now hosts 197 companies with a combined market capitalisation of more than 45bn euros (£30bn). Of this, 41 per cent is accounted for by IT companies.

Nevertheless, the creation of a separate index will probably spur more buying as institutions raise their exposure to the sector. According to research by Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the investment bank, UK institutions are still underweight in IT. The UK's pension

funds are the most technophobic, with 40 per cent less of their assets in the sector than they should have just to maintain a neutral position.

"Institutions are usually more than happy to get a chunk of good growth stocks," says Andrew Freyre-Sanders, an equity strategist at DKB. "But if you've missed the boat to begin with, it gets harder as they run away and do well."

Other analysts estimate that, of the top 30 institutional investors in London, only half have a reasonable exposure to 1T. "There is more buying to come in the second quarter,"

Whether the boost provided by the new sector will be enough to keep British IT companies in the UK, however, remains to be

#### Ayling's Polish PEOPLE AND connection

BOB AYLING, the chief executive at British Airways, was at Wembley for England's 3-1 victory over Poland on Saturday. Strangely Mr Ayling had to spend the match surrounded by a large Polish contingent, Does Mr Ayling have some Polish connection we haven't heard about - or was he the victim of a ticket mix-up?

The former it would appear. Mr Ayling was a guest of Lot, the Polish airline, which had bought for its website, which regis-Lot's president, Jan Litwinksi. Lot and BA have a code-sharing arrangement, whereby both airlines can plug into each other's sales networks.

There was only one downside to Saturday's hospitality - the Polish fans were kept behind in the stadium to give the England fans time to disperse. I'm sure Mr Ayling made good use of this networking opportunity.

#### Mirroring Virgin

MIRROR GROUP bas poached Virgin Net's chief executive officer, David Clarke, to set up its own Internet division.

Mr Clarke, 50, belped Virgin Net win the Internet Service Provider of the Year Award for intends to save Silverstone

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Michael Storier, Olirector

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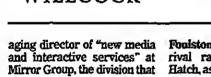
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BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK



most popular website. Mirror Group has big hopes month last year More than 8m of those are on the Sporting Life site, and the division also has an on-line betting service developed with the Tote and called TotalBet

Mr Clarke started his career at Hewlett Packard and had stints with Digital and Compaq before joining Richard Branson's Internet venture in June 1997. Mr Clarke's first task will be to launch the Mirror's free Internet service provider in the next few months, which is still under development.

#### **Silverstone**

LORD HESKETH will announce this afternoon how he 1997. He will now become man- from the clutches of Nicola

Legal Notices

No. 001427 of 1999 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION

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that the Order of the High Cour of Justice (Chancery Division dated Wednesday the 17th day o March 1999 confirming the reduction of the share capital o

reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company by cancelling 3,712,000 Redeemable Cumulative Preference Shares of 21 each and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company is altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 23rd March 1999

Dated this 25th day of March

alicitors to the Company

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Foulston, the chief executive of rival racing track Brands Hatch, as well as hostile bidder already runs the UK's fifth John Lewis, a former Silverstone executive.

The British Racing Driver's Club, of which Lord Hesketh is 50 tickets for the game. In fact tered 20 million "hits" in Jan- president, owns Silverstone, Grand Prix triumphs. The club was stung into

conducting a complete review of its operations after a £41m bid from Mr Lewis last year, and indications since then that Ms Foulston may launch a bid of her own directly to the club's 800 members.

Tomorrow Lord Hesketh will present his proposals, put together with adviser Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, to the Club's membership, which is packed with top racing drivers such as Damon Hill, Martin Brundle and Michael MacDowel. The members will then vote on the club's future.

Lord Hesketh's main idea is to create a separate company that will rent Silverstone from the club, and which may be floated in a couple of years' time.

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#### Paribas beauty

PARIBAS RECENTLY published a research note on the global media industry which featured a picture of an attractive woman on the front cover.

The sales desk at Paribas was deluged with phone calls from fund managers eager to meet "Andrea Azimundi". the name on the cover of the report.

When they discovered that Andrea is in fact a male, Italian, not to say bearded analyst at Paribas, the callers strangely lost their enthusiasm.

#### CIA's error

THE END of the tax year is nigh in Britain. And it's 31 March, ac cording to the website belonging to the Central Intelligence Agency, which helpfully sets out the information that its operatives have gleaned on various countries.

How strange of the American spooks to make such an elementary error. Maybe the last time that a CIA agent stirred out of McClean, Virginia, with a mission to investigate the UK tax year was 1854. It was that year, according

to Britain's Inland Revenue that the end of the tax year was fixed as 5 April - and has remained so ever since.

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#### IN BRIEF

chemicals assets ICI YESTERDAY confirmed it

was in talks with Huntsman. the US's biggest privately held chemicals maker, and others to sell hulk-chemicals assets as it revives efforts to divest less profitable units. ICI

shares closed up 34p at 561p on hopes it may be able to sell more low-margin units to focus on specialty chemicals. Reports over the weekend said that ICI was in talks to

EU stalls jet law AN AMERICAN threat to ban

sell units worth about £2bn

Concorde flights to US airports if the European Union went ahead with outlawing old, noisy jets was lifted yesterday after EU transport ministers decided to wait a month before adopting the law A meeting in Brussels had been due to rubber stamp the legislation, but the US Congress's threat to refuse to allow Concorde to land at American airports and veiled threats from the Clinton administration that "open skies" air traffic liberalisation talks

could be disrupted in retaliation, persuaded EU ministers to step back from the brink of

Rise in savings

another trade war

THE SAVINGS rate in the UK has increased since the 1980s. People are saving more to protect themselves against a sudden loss of income and saving more for retirement because of the privatisation of pensions, according to research presented yesterday at the Royal Economic Society annual conference. The UK saving rate climbed from 6.2 per cent in 1988 to 11 per cent in 1997.

Scoot.com

SCOOTCOM, the information services group, was formerly known as Freepages Group, not, as described in an article last week, Talking Pages. Talking Pages, which was launched nationally in 1994, is part of Yellow Pages group of information sources.

#### pay blew up 3i talks share offer collapsed after 31 31, THE venture capital firm BY ANDREW VERITY baulked at the pay deal.

Electra 'bombshell' on

embroiled in a £1.24bn hostile hid for Electra Investment Trust, yesterday revealed that a secret pay deal for Electra's fund managers had blown apart initially friendly talks. A spokesman for 3i confirmed that Michael Stoddart, chairman and founder of Elec-

outline £1.2hn deal and entered talks with Brian Larcombe, chief executive of 3i. After agreeing to enter more detailed talks. Mr Stoddart dropped what 3i described as a "remuneration bombshell",

saying he had agreed to a 60 per cent boost in rewards for the trust's fund managers at Elec-

tra Fleming. In one of the City's raciest reward packages, senior fund managers at Electra Fleming had already been given a 5 per cent participation in capital profits. The new pay package oured, Talks about the 720p-a- decision on an approach.



executive of 3i

would have increased this to 8 per cent. According to 3i, Mr Stoddart

said on 15 January that he was minded to accept their offer. But he insisted that the agreement, which had not been disclosed to shareholders, must be hou-

Instead, six weeks later, Mr

Stoddart offered to buy back 40 per cent of the shares at 786p and wind up the trust. The wind-up plan entails the purchase by the trust of a 50 per cent stake in Electra Fleming. 3i yesterday said it was

irritation at continual leaks to newspapers "by the other side". Reports have also suggested a clash between Mr Stoddart and fund managers at Electra Fleming.

3 N: W

MARINA

W 111 11

TENE OF STREET

3i has continually resisted suggestions that its hid, which would create the biggest venture capital firm in the country. was hostile.

Electra executives were unavailable for comment yesterday. But Electra has stressed that Mr Stoddart would not take a unilateral

## Liffe launches joint venture with London Clearing House

LIFFE, the futures exchange, yesterday announced details of a joint venture with the London Clearing House (LCH), a development that could see Liffe expand beyond its traditional market of financial derivatives, writes Lea Paterson.

Brian Williamson, Liffe chairman, said the new venture would allow the two organisations to explore business opportunities that did not naturally fall within their individual remits.

Liffe and the LCH - which provides clearing services to the International Petroleum Exchange and the London Metal Exchange as well as Liffe - plan to combine their expertise to offer new trading and clearing initiatives to the market's major players.

stepping stone for Liffe to enter other financial markets such as equities, Mr Williamson said. However, he acknowledged that any move away from the exchange's traditional base could require the co-operation of other City institutions.

The Liffe chairman stressed that the joint venture with the LCH was not a prelude to a fullscale merger, but was rather one of a number of partnerships that Liffe intends to pursue as a means of securing its longer term future. He said: "Liffe will remain a customer of the London Clearing House for day-today husiness, but as far as development is concerned it will have a partner."

A development board will be

The venture could serve as a asked to oversee the joint venture in its initial stages. Pen Kent, non-executive director of NatWest and former executive director of the Bank of England, is among the development board members, as are Sir Brian Pitman, Lloyds TSB chairman, and Alastair Clark, an executive director of the Bank of England.

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#### BUSINESS/15

# Browne heads up Rockefeller Road

SIR JOHN Browne makes an unikely John D Rockefeller, His one nod in the direction of ostentation is the occasional Havana that he likes to puff on. That apart, the diminutive chief executive of BP Amoco is hardly the archtypal oilnear, being more at home at the opera than on board an oil rig. Nevertheless, Sir John is beginning to dominate the oil industry in much the same inexorable way as did his illustrious predecessor nearly a

century ago.
Provided the board of Atlantic Richfield does not get cold feet, then by the end of this week Sir John will be in charge of the second biggest oil company in the world.

Moreover, he will have re-assembled three of the six businesses that the Rockefeller empire was forcibly broken into in 1911 after US anti-trust busters decided that Standard Oil had become too big for its boots and too dominant for the good of the American economy.

Last year's £80bn BP-Amoco merger brought together Standard all of Ohio (today part of BP) and scandard Oil of Indiana (the forerunner of Amoco). Now Atlantic Refining as Arco was known when it Even with Arco under its belt. BP became a secret affiliate of Stan-



OUTLOOK

dard Oil in 1874, is poised to join the Browne family as well.

The Arco deal is certainly opportunistic. Sir John is taking advantage of both the low oil price which has eaten away at oil company valuations and the soaring value of BP Amoco shares since the start of the year to pick up Arco on

the cheap using his own paper.
But the line from Britannic
House is that this latest merger is not about size for the sake of it. The fact that BP Amoco will leapfrog the accident-prone Royal Dutch Shell and land in second spot behind Exxon-Mobil is mere coincidence. Amoco will remain only three quar-

ters of the size of Exxon-Mobil. It could bridge that gap by acquiring. say, Chevron but even someone as single-minded and energetic as Sir John needs to take a rest sometime.

The logic of the BP-Amoco deal was hard to fault which was partly why it sailed through the regulators virtually unscathed. There is every prospect that the acquisition of Arco will enjoy a similarly smooth passage since there it involves virtually no concentration of market power. As an added bonus, there is only the remotest of chances of a rival intervening to spoil the party. Any move on Arco by Chevron, Texaco or Shell would run smack bang

into anti-trust problems on the US

petrol operations.

Arco, with its heavy dependence on Alaska, has looked vulnerable since last autumn's asset writedowns and a belated cost-cutting drive. BP Amoco, which has its own substantial Alaskan operations, looks best placed to capitalise. If the success of the Amoco merger is any guide, Sir John should be able to double the \$500m of cost savings that the Arco management is currently trying to wring from the

whether he is overstretching himself, given that BP is only just digesting Amoco. The answer is that, in reality, this deal ranks as little more than a bolt-on acquisition. Moreover it is one which might have moved out of range, along with the strengthening oil price, had Sir

#### Glaxo Wellcome

John hung around too long.

THE DECISIVE manner in which Sir John is building his oil empire contrasts starkly with the series of abortive merger attempts made by Glaxo Wellcome's Sir Richard West Coast where they all have big Sykes. First he failed to tie the knot with SmithKline Beecham after falling out with Jan Leschley on the way up the aisle. Now his overtures to an an American bride, Bristol Myers Squibb, have come to nought.

There again, perhaps the dalhance with the Americans was merely designed to hare SmithKline Beecham back to the negotiating table. As every lover knows, there is nothing like jealousy to spice up a flagging relationship. If nothing else, we may at last discover if Mr Leschly's new-found love for inde-

The only question mark is pendence is for real or just tactical talk while he bides his time until departing.

Sir Richard's end-game is known. He wants to build Glazo into the world's largest drug company with 10 per cent of the market as quickly as possible. According to figures eased yesterday by the consultancy IMS Health, Glazo is number three in the world, within spitting distance of the leaders Novartis and

Merck. The UK company could reach the top through organic growth, but to get from the present 4 per cent market share to the magic 10, Sir Richard needs a deal. He, and the City, would like it to be with SKB, but if that doesn't materialise, Sir Richard is prepared to talks to others, as the Bristol Myers Squibb discussions show. Given Glaxo's strong hand, it is time for the other players and particularly SmithKline to end their bluffs and put their cards on the table.

#### **Energy tax**

IT IS one of the depressing facts of life that pleasures are swift and pains lasting. As the glow of Gordon

bad news in the Budget has come to the fore. First truckers complained about vehicle excise and fuel duties. Yesterday it was the turn of heavy energy users to criticise plans for a climate change levy, or

Like the road hauliers, the energy-intensive industries make some pretty specious points. They complain that their energy costs are much higher than those of their competitors overseas, but omit the fact that other costs are lower. The balance of the tax burden between energy, labour and capital is different in the UK-it favours labour. But the overall corporate tax burden is pretty similar across Europe. Most comparisons put Britain ahead on cost grounds. So while the energy tax will certainly fall more heavily on energy-intensive users. that does not make it a bad policy per se, even if they are all in the

struggling manufacturing sector. However, there are two serious problems with the government's se of tax as an instrument of environmental policy. One is the fact that above inflation increases in fuel duties have done nothing to damp-

Brown's penny off the income tax en our love affair with the car. Emishas faded from the headlines, the sions of greenhouse gases from transport have actually doubled in 25 years. The lesson from governmental tinkering with incentives to get vehicles off the roads is that tax charges probably have to be very high indeed to have a big impact on

Secondly, there is a profound political silence on the need for consumers and households to pay more for their energy use if fiscal policy is to be an effective environmental instrument. Having made such political capital over its defeat of the Tories on VAT on domestic fuel, and having made such a virtue of falling gas and electricity hills for consumers, the Government is not going to reverse course now. But the fact is that unless every one of us pays more for energy, as a nation we will not economise on it.

Taxation is a blunt instrument, especially when it is wielded so selectively. A better policy than penalising the use of energy would be to incentivise industry to reduce its emissions. The Government, as yesterday's olive branch to the big energy users demonstrated, is moving in that direction.

## Enterprise captures Century with £79m strike |Schroders signs

ENTERPRISE INNS, the pub owner, yesterday scooped up its rival Century Inns within hours of making an unsolicited £79.1m bid at the behest of institutional shareholders.

Century executives were suddenly faced with the cerrichty of being unseated, just idars after the announcement of the paper bid, which offers 0.3942 new shares in Enterprise

for every share in Century. The takeover will mean the departure of Century's executives and the closure of its head office, which employs fewer than 40 people. Enterprise said it would "generally keep all the people running their pubs".

Sources at Enterprise said

BY ANDREW VERFTY

initiative, led by nine institutions who wanted to see the creation of a pub-owning giant. We were not interested in a long, drawn-out battle and we made it very clear we would proceed only with their support," the source said.

By this morning, when Century executives learnt of the bid, Enterprise already had undertakings or statements of intent in respect of 44.8 per cent of the company. By 3pm the offer, which values Century at 147p a share, went unconditional.

offer and promised a state-

it would have to delay publishing a statement until today.

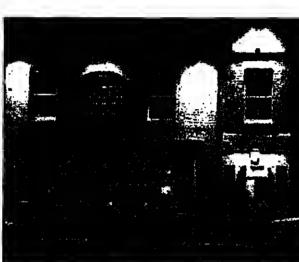
In January, institutional shareholders contacted Ted Tuppen, chief executive of Enterprise, after rumours emerged about a deal with Im Business, another rival. Led by Morgan Grenfell Asset Manement, M&G, Scottish Equitable and Norwich Union, the shareholders said they would prefer a takeover of Century. They added that there was

Enterprise and Century floated in 1995 as separate companies. Both held pubs formerly Yesterday, Century at first owned by Bass, but Enterprise said it was considering the ran all its pubs as tenancies rather than the managed the bid was a shareholder ment. By the afternoon it said houses favoured by Century.

Analysts said that Century, led by Alistair Arkley, had not been helped by its disappointing share-price performance. According to Enterprise, the total shareholder return on £100 invested in Enterprise on flotation was now £327, as against £120 for an investment

in Century.
"Whether the board accepts immaterial now. Unfortunately, companies can end up being run hy institutional more than 50 per cent support. shareholders and in this case, they want a faster-growing company, which Enterprise is," said one.

Shares in Century closed esterday at 141.5p, up from 115p. Shares in Enterprise closed down 7p at 373.5p.



Both pub groups floated in 1995, but Enterprise has enjoyed better market fortunes than Century

# for Liverpool FC

LIVERPOOL Football Club could float on the stock market or be sold to a media group after the Premier League club yesterday appointed Schroders, the leading investment bank to advise it on its options in the fast-moving football industry, writes Peter Thal Larsen.

The club, which is 65 per cent owned by the Moores family, had previously dismissed any talk that it might join the rush of football clubs that have listed their shares on the Stock

However, David Moores, Liverpool's chairman, said: "The appointment of Schroders will

imise the potential of the club and to ensure it remains firmly established within Europe's

Despite an illustrious history, Liverpool in recent years have underperformed compared to rivals such as Manchester United and Arsenal, In financial terms, however, the club is still one of the most profitable in the country, reporting an operating profit before transfers of £15m in 1997.

The move comes as football clubs await the outcome of both RSkyB's £625m bid for Manchester United, and the Office of Fair Trading's court case help us to plan how best to max- against the Premier League.

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# Investors pile on to merger bandwagon

TAKEOVER MANIA returned to boost Footsie. The blue-chip index jumped 113.7 points to \$252.9 as investors piled on to e speculative bandwagon.

BP Amoco, Glaxo Wellcome and Reed International were the giants setting the pace. Among the second liners Safeway, the supermarket chain, and Storehouse, the BbS group, were singled out for bid attention.

The prospect of BP Amoco. Footsie's biggest company, getting even bigger by taking over Los Angeles-based Atlantic Richfield (Arco) for £16bn sent the shares gushing 40p to a new 1,077p peak.

With Arco in tow, BP would represent an even more daunting challenge to fund managers than it does at the moment. After the Amoco merger it accounted for apeaching 9 per cent of Footsie. If Arco is bedded in its involvement will be about 11 per cent. With many fund managers yet to adjust fully for

BEECHCROFT held at 2.25p, a year's high, after reporting 14-month profits of £542,000, a 67 per cent increase on the previous 12 months. It builds upmarket retirement homes with a starting price of £175,000. Profits this year could

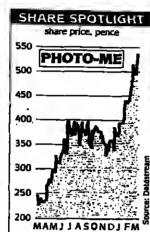
hit £850,000, helped by developments at Henleyon-Thames and at Lechlade, also on the river. The dividend is 0.08p against 0.05p. The shares have been up to 4p.

the Amoco merger they will be disturbingly underweight in the all-powerful oil group.

Other oil shares responded to the BP initiative, with Shell, on hopes it could be stirred into merger action, rising by 12.25p to 423.25p. With the crude oil price at a five-month high Enterprise Oil, still talking merger with Lasmo, flared 8p to 353p; Lasmo gained 3.75p to 135.5p.

Glaxo was on a high, adding 83p to 1,979p. It has again shown its desire to grow by holding merger talks with MARKET REPORT

DEREK



Squibb. The negotiations did not get very far, but they un-derlined market suspicion that it will not be long before Glaxo entices a drug rival Smith-Kline Beecham, still regarded as a merger possibility, put on 32.5p to 855.5p.

Publisher Reed International gained 21p to 540.5p following reports that Wolters Kluwer was stalking the Anglo-Dutch group with a possible £15bn offer. With so many heavyweights

in demand, Footsie moved steadily ahead for much of the day. A strong New York was another bullish influence, helping overcome worries about the Balkan crisis, More evidence that interest rates should be cut further and the usual jockeying ahead of the end of the trading quarter and tax year contributed to the Easter parade.

Supporting shares also edged into positive territory, but most of the attention was directed at Footsie.

Still, Safeway jumped 15.75p to 253.75p. Some sugsold, but the surge in trading indicated hopes of corporate

action. Asda is known to have looked and walked away, and it is possible that the group's charms could attract an overseas predator, such as Wal-Mart or Royal Ahold. The Safeway move could, in

part, have been inspired by Crédit Lyonnais' buy advice. The investment house said the shares had fallen to "ludicrous levels".

Storehouse also drew strength from the oversold argument, but the 11p gain to 136.5p was also due to talk of a US strike. The retailer denied it had received a bid

Imperial Chemical Industries topped the Footsie leader board on hopes its disposal programme was at last coming together and sales worth £2hn were near BT, on expectations of a Cellnet deal, was back above 1,000p at 1,014p, and talk of bank action pushed Lloyds TSB 43.5p higher to 943p. P&O, after last week's

progress, ran out of steam, slipping 38p to 913.5p, and broke lost ground after BT Alex Brown took the shares off its buy list; they gave up 7.5p to 288.75p. Billiton, the resources group, eased 8p to 145p after analysts returned from South America, and Railtrack reversed 21p to 1,455p on funding worries. Great Universal Stores fell 28p to 590p; it was believed that Cazenove cut its profit forecast from £518m to £502m. Last year GUS achieved £623.7m

Among the second liners London International, the condom maker, gained 11p to 155.5p after it became apparent that takeover talks were still going on. Glass maker Pilkington rose 3p to 75p on persistent bid talk.

Century Inns frothed up 26.5p to 141.5p as Enterprise Inns duly rolled out its 150p-ashare hid and, illustrating shareholder power, quickly won control Inn Business, acother in Enterprise's sights. fell 5p to 66.5p. Pubs 'n' Bars, in reverse takeover talks, rose

Cleveland Trust, a prop- SEAQ VOLUME: 982.2m erty group, added 7.5p to 115p SEAQ TRADES: 90,957 the US group, Bristol Myers gested that it was merely over- as the Ashtenne property GILTS INDEX: 113.41 +1.00

likely bidder.

Sema, the computer group, shaded to 738.5p on its return to Footsie following the removal of LucasVarity, and Photo-Me International snapped 30p higher to 535p on its mid cap debut. Ultraframe, also a mid cap recruit, firmed to 402.5p.

French Connection rose 105p to 485p following results. and Arlen, the electrical group, scored the day's best gain, 34.5 per cent to 26.25p, as asset sales and a corporate revamp edged nearer. Signet, the jeweller, twin-

kled 1.50 up to 47.75p after it became known that it faced resolutions from 6 per cent of shareholders to sell its US operations or at least float e 20 per cent interest in its transatlantic jewellery chain.

Sandtracs, the hi-fi group, continued to benefit from last week's upbeat trading statement, hitting a 12-month peak with a 13p gain to 81.5p. BGR,

COUNTRYWIDE Assured, the estate agent, rose 5p to 140.5p; earlier this month the group reported profits down from £54.8m to £43.3m, but said trading in its first two months had been "very encouraging".

With the housing market improving the former Hambro Countrywide, capitalised at near £500m, could be on a roll and there is talk that it could attract a predator. The shares were 24p three years ago.

the restaurant group, served up a 26.5p gain to 180p following encouraging trading comments. Clubbaus, the golf group expected to tee up profits 90 per cent higher at £6.7m today, advanced 8p to 64.5p.

NMT, the disposable syringe maker, gained another 9.5p to 136.5p. The shares have surged upwards from 70p last week after the company announced its plans to raise

# Blue Circle ready for £400m buying spree

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

BLUE CIRCLE, the UK's largest cement maker, is set to go on a £400m acquisition spree to boost its presence in emerging

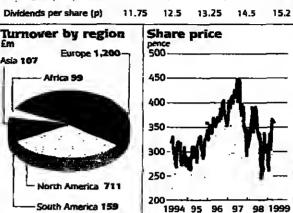
The chief executive, Keith Orrell-Jones, said yesterday that a slump in the group's profits in the crisis-ridden Asian and Latin American economies would not halt Blue Circle's expansion in the developing world. He hinted the group would spend a large part of its war chest in South America, where it owns a large Chilean cement. maker. The company was also looking at bolt-on acquisitions in Asia, where it spent more than £700m on acquisitions last year.

Mr Orrell-Jones said Blue Circle would consider investing in developed markets, particularly the US where demand for cement is set to boom thanks to multi-billion dollar infrastructure spending. However, he warned that high valuations of US companies made it difficult to buy in America.

The chief executive said that competition issues ruled out acquisitions in the UK, where Blue Circle controls over 40 per cent of the market.

News of the expansion drive came as the company quashed speculation that it would sell its UK heating business, which has long been seen as non-

**BLUE CIRCLE: AT A GLANCE** Five-year record 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1.78 1.81 2.32 2.30 Turnover (Ebn) Pre-rax profits (£m) 297.6 246.3 273.8 11.75 12.5 13.25 14.5 15.2



rule out a sale in the future, but said he was not in talks with potential buyers.

Some analysts took a dim view of Blue Circle's expansion plans. "They need to achieve a balance in their investment. I would be loath to see another £400m going to emerging markets," said Kevin Cammack at Merrill Lynch.

The City's fears were backed by the 1998 results, out yesterday. Profits before tax and exin 1999 Asia was expected to show some recovery, while the near-term prospects of the Chilean business could be affected by the UK government's decision to extradite the former dictator, General Augusto Pinochet, to Spain. The UK business had a re-

The chief executive said that

silient year, with profits 11 per cent higher at £75.8m as inflation-busting price rises were off-set by a decline in volumes.

Mr Orrell-Jones said that, although UK sales would remain flat in 1999, Blue Circle would benefit from a £12m cost reduction from the planned closure of two quarries in Inswich and Plymouth with the loss of 250 jobs. The saving, which comes after this year's £18m cost cut, puts Blue Circle on track to meet its target of a £50m reduction by 2002.

For all the cost cutting, the mature domestic market will not fuel Blue Circle's future earnings, and growth will have to rely on Asia. Mr Cammack said: "For real growth you have to look at Asia and the truth is that growth is not going to arrive this year and probably not next year

On Mr Cammack's 1999 earnings forecast of £320m, the shares are on a 12 times multiple. They are worth holding until Asia recovers, but for the moment there is better value

## British Regional demand takes off

SHARES IN British Regional Air BY ANDREW VERITY Lines, the small European carrier, jumped by 14 per cent yesterday when the company reported surging demand for flights on its 50-seat jets.

With profits up by more than one-third, the shares began to recover the status they enjoyed before the collapse of small cap stocks in September last year, rising by 10p to 80p.

The full-year results are the first since British Regional came to market in June last year, opening at around 100p a share. Yesterday the board declared its first dividend of 0.88p. Three months after listing,

the group was rocked by the port stocks particularly hard.

the impact of discount competition from EasyJet and Gol, the carrier owned by British Airways. Amid warnings of a softening travel market, the shares took two months to plummet from 100p to below 30p.

Terry Liddiard, the chief executive of British Regional, responded by stepping up a successful experiment with 50seat jet aircraft. This class of jets became

profitable to fly only last year and have proved valuable to small airlines that could operate less popular routes without the strain of having to fill 100 economic gloom caused by the seats per flight. The jets also rouble crisis, which hit trans- bold much greater passenger appeal than turboprop aircraft. BRITISH REGIONAL AIRWAYS share price, pence 100 -80 ----70 ---60 — 50 ---40 ----30 -20 MJJASONDJEM

£317.6m on turnover marginal-

ly down to £2.3bn. The figures

halted the stock's good run,

sending the shares down 4.5p to

collapse in profits in Malaysia,

the Philippines and Chile. In the

Asian countries, economic tur-

moil caused a 72.4 per cent

The Far East's woes prompt-

ed a 32 per cent fall in profits at

the Chilean operations, heavily

skump in profits to £8.8m.

The figures were driven by a

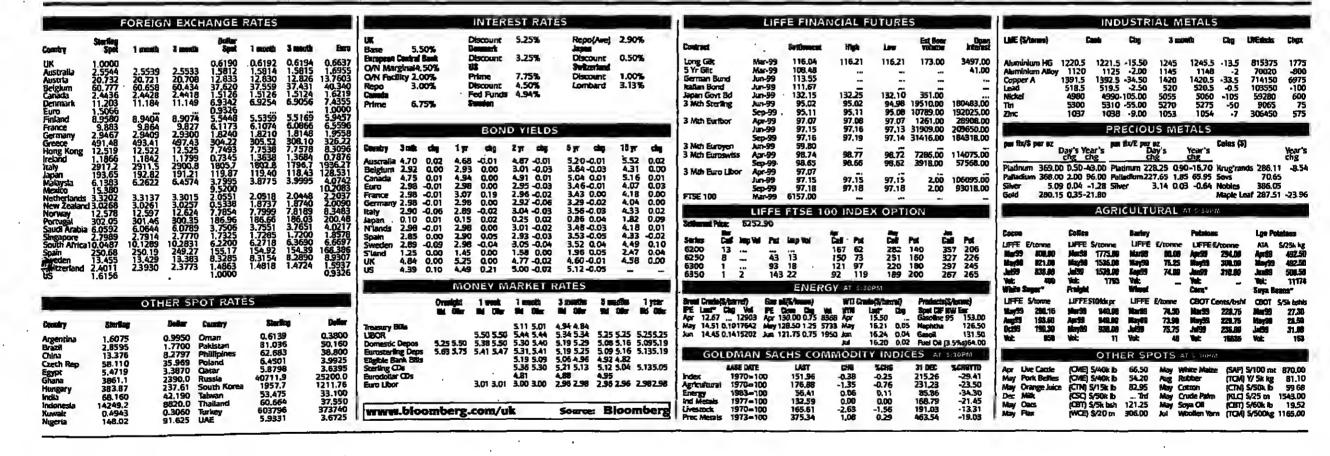
more jets and plans to convert the entire fleet of 45 aircraft as soon as he can.

The airline is also moving into new routes, including some

largest City. Sheffield only recently gained its own airport. Amid last year's economic travails, few investors drew a sharp enough distinction between discount carriers such as EasyJet and regional airlines such as British Regional.

Analysts point out that cutthroat fare cutting has little effect on British Regional because it is usually the sole carrier on its typical routes. Where it is not, it has shown in the past that it is perfectly capable of fighting off competition.

Forecasts for 1999 are already being upgraded from the £6m profit that analysts had expected. At 80p, the shares are on a forward price/earnings ratio of around eight - a hefly discount to the market - and



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# SPORT

European Championship: Wales emerge from the doldrums to rediscover that winning feeling

# Speed is driven by patriotic fervour

GARY SPEED was doing his PR bit, swinging a golf club for the benefit of photographers and chuckling at the incongruity of doing it at Prescoed Prison, Usk, where Wales train. "Is that it, everyone happy?" he asked. Not as content as you appear to be could have been the reply.

He was the relaxed ambassador a captain of his country ought to be, which is noteworthy on several counts, not least of which is that he could have been a focal point for glowering discontent within the Welsh squad instead of becoming its cement. The smiles at Prescoed could easily have been converted to

How close he came to causing an anduring rift between himself and the Wales manager Bobby Gould only they know - and neither is too forthcoming - but a flash point occurred that could have permanently fractured their relationship.

Speed, a fierce patriot, was so disgusted by Wales' lamentable display when they lost 4-0 to Tunisia last June he let rip in the dressing room. "All the frustrations boiled up within Gary and he could hold them no longer," an un-named team-mate was quoted afterwards and as Gould is no slowcoach when it comes to expressing opinions either you can imagine the ferocity of the exchange.

"The game shouldn't have happened, it was too much in terms of the season and energy levels," Graham Williams, Gould's assistant, said. "The Tunisians messed us around something terrible, putting kick-off time back and putting it forward again. They didn't even

give us balls to train with. "Everything was getting to people, someone had to say something and Gary did. He was like a volcano, he was disappointed about the result and he just exploded. It was a game

Some managers might have clumsily flexed their selectorial muscles. Players have been known to petulantly turn their backs on international football, but thankfully for Wales neither acted before they put their restraint and sense in gear. The air was cleared by the storm, Gould retained Speed as his captain and a bond appears to have been forged.

We knew a lot of things had to change," Williams continued, reflecting on the new mood. "Bobby knew it too and is man enough to do it. He now has me to bounce ideas off and we try to get Gary, Mark Hughes and the other players involved in conversations and team talks. We don't just say: Bobby and I are going to do this or that'. We've become more of a team."

In terms of results, surprisingly so. The 2-0 defeat by Italy at Anfield was a scoreline that did not do justice to Wales and they have beaten Denmark away and Belarus at home to reach second place in Group One. A good result against Switzerland in Zurich tomorrow will mean that hopes will be rising that qualification for the European Championship finals via second place and the play-offs is feasible.

The atmosphere as the Welsh

#### **GUY HODGSON**

players assembled last week could not be much more of a contrast to the rancour and unhappiness of Tunisia. "The spirit now is like it was in the best times," Speed said. "It's important because we don't see each other that often, six months since the last time, but when we met again it was if we'd all been together yesterday. Everyone gets on and we take that on to the pitch."

Speed will win his 50th cap tomorrow-collecting them at the rate of two to one compared to Ryan Giggs since the Manchester United winger made his international debut in 1992 - and at 29 is the most consistently available influence in Wales' midfield. He is also, with the senior men Mark Hughes and Dean Saunders, best placed to weigh Wales' recent history.

"We've had some very good times and some very bad ones," he said. "The high point was when we were beating Germany, Brazil and Belgium at home without it being strange. It wasn't expected but it wasn't an upset either. That's the aim. To get back to Cardiff Arms Park and make it the fortress it once

As for low, he did not hesitate to nominate November 1993 when a win over Romania in Cardiff would have gained Wales a place in the following summer's World Cup. Instead Paul Bodin hit the bar with a penalty and Wales missed out on their first major finals since 1958. "It was an absolute sickener," Speed said, "and worse now than it was at the time because you look back and think we were so close.

"Things needed to change and maybe they didn't change as quickly as they should have done. We needed a fresh start and maybe, if the bad times hadn't happened, we'd still be stale and struggling. People have made a conscious effort to get out of the rut."

No one more so than Speed. Against Italy, in his first game after his Tunisian outburst, he comfortably eclipsed Demetrio Albertini and Eusebio Di Francesco and was the dominant midfield force on a pitch purportedly littered with them. "He was outstanding, the best game I've seen him play for Wales," Williams said. "His leadership was immense and it was a pity he was on the losing side because he outshone a lot of the Italians. In the dressing room afterwards be was so upset about the result.

"He's very, very Welsh. He plays Welsh music in his car all the time and he desperately wants his country to do well."

Speed, whose form has been outstanding for his club, Newcastle, since he moved inside from the left wing and into the centre of the seemingly doubting Rand Gullit's plans, missed the game against Be-



Gary Speed: 'The spirit now is like it was in the best times. Everyone gets on and we take that on to the pitch'

and John Hartson. That, he believes, is relevant. "We've struggled at times in the past because we haven't got strength in depth. If Giggsy or Sparky Hughes were missing we'd struggle, so to get the results we did was helpful for our confidence."

As for the Swiss game, he added: "We're confident of getting a result edgeable about his football,"

be a great result only if we win at home. It's no point doing well on Wednesday if we blow it back in

If that suggests something more depth than the usual "taking each game as it comes", then it has also been noticed within the Welsh FA. "He talks sense and is very knowl-

you listen because even as a coach I can learn from him.

"When we played Belarus he was on the bench and it was interesting to watch him. He was analysing the match, he was analysing Bobby and myself and how we work and thinking about bow

things can improve. "He'll be a coach in the future, I'm

course, but when Bobby and I leave he and Mark Hughes will make a very good partnership. I'm sure he

could be a future Wales manager.' For now, Speed is happy with his current role. "It's the greatest honour in the game to be captain of your country," he said, "and it's not one I take lightly at all." Bobby Gould will

## Graveney wants contracts resolved

CRICKET

By Myles Hodgson in Lahore

DAVID GRAVENEY yesterday called for a quick resolution to England's World Cup contracts issue before it threatens to undermine the crucial final stages of the side's preparations for this summer's tournament.

Graveney, the chairman of selectors, was speaking as be arrived with England's 15-man squad in Lahore, where the team will acclimatise before contesting the Coca-Cola Cup in Sharjah against India and Pakistan next week, their final competitive fixtures before the World Cup.

With six weeks until the World Cup begins, the England and Wales Cricket Board has still to give contract details to the 15 selected players despite lengthy negotiations between the England captain, Alec Stewart, and the international team director,

"I'm keen that everything is resolved and everyone is happy with it and that those negotiations do not get in the way of playing the game." Graveney explained.

The players are believed to be asking for around £50,000 a man, based on incentives for reaching each stage and appearance money, if they become the first host country to win the World Cup. But the ECB's offer is likely to fall well short of that figure because the Board is still to secure four of its anticipated eight sponsors for the tournament.

"My own personal view, for what it is worth, is that selection for the World Cup should be recognised," Graveney said. "The players should receive some reward for being selected in the squad and then identify tiers which they reach in the tournament and that should be reflected financially."

Because of the logistics involved in sending the contracts out to the squad, the players are unlikely to sign until they return but Graveney is acting as an intermediary between Stewart and Pack in the meantime, in the hope that an agreement can be reached.

"What I would like to do is get everybody to agree the terms before the Sharjah tournament," Graveney added. "Lahore has many pluspoints, and the main one is the amount of time the team spends together here.

"It's good for team spirit and the week we spent here before we played in Sharjah last time I thought was instrumental in creating the spirit we took into that tournament

There is no doubt the World Cup is the pinnacle as a one-day competition and that has to be kept in mind when it comes to the con-

#### TOMORROW



Sport needs an effective lobby. If I have to do a deal with the devil I will get an effective lobby.'

Sports Minister Tony Banks talks to Brian Viner

# Celtic selectors are abusing the Granny factor

I READ in the papers that a learned professor claims the ancient Celts are a myth. Whether this is so or not, what has come to be called the Celtic nations will be entering the World Cup with some pretty mythical rugby teams if they are meant to be truly representing their re-spective countries. Indeed, the competition deserves to go down as the Convenient Granny Cup.

Scotland will almost certainly have in their squad Glenn Metcalfe, Shaun Longstaff, Gordon Shopson, Martin Leslie and his brother John, the outstanding centre thus far in the Five Nations. They all originate from New Zealand. Another nearcertainty is the prop Matthew Proudfoot. He is from South Africa. Nor should we forget the Scottish



ALAN WATKINS

raids across the border David Hilton is a Bristol butcher who plays for Bath, Paul Burnell is from Reading. Andy Reed was born at St Austell in Cornwall, which is about as far from mainland. And Budge Pountney was to the Welsh team who bears the fine one but a true-born Englishman at born in the Channel Islands and old Valley name of Brett Sinkinson outside half, which appeared to comes from Hampshire.

Kevin Maggs, a Bristolian who as Anchor butter opted for a green jersey - as Kyran Bracken considered going for at one stage of his career - while Malcolm O'Kelly was born in Chelmsford.

The Irish are, like the Scots, a migratory people. Nonetheless I have doubts about the inclusion in the squad of Ross Nesdale and Andy Ward, from New Zealand, and Dion O'Cuinnegain, from South Africa.

My native land are - always have been - relatively modest cross-border plunderers. Shane Howarth plays for Sale in the English Premiership and was previously capped

old Valley name of Brett Sinkinson outside half, which appeared to is uncapped by New Zealand but is rule out Stransky. Then he said he Ireland have a similar player in as much a product of that country

Peter Rodgers, the much-needed loose-head prop, had a father from Trimsaran, near Llanelli; was born in Maidstone, learnt his rugby in South Africa; and plays for London Irish, even though he has not played much this season on account of

England look like going into the competition with an all-English squad. There was a flutter, some weeks ago, about whether Joel Stransky would be added. First Clive Woodward, the England coach, said he would be sad if he had yet should anything untoward hapscotland as it is possible to go on the by New Zealand. The new addition to enter the competition with any pen to Jeremy Guscott.

might consider the former South Africa outside half, who was playing for Leicester until his injury. That injury, combined with his

failure to meet the three-year residential qualification by a matter of weeks, seems to mean that Stransky will not be wearing a white jersey. Despite the emergence of Jonny Wilkinson and the on-and-off rehabilitation of Mike Catt, he would fill what is still a gap. It is interesting that Woodward is advancing the claims of Nick Burrows, who learnt his rugby in South Africa and plays for London Irish. He may be needed

On the whole, England are less prone to go on cross-border raids than their neighbours, or to ransack the southern hemisphere for its hidden treasures. It was not always so. In the decade after the war, Oxford University were one of the most formidable teams in the land, on a par

with Cardiff and Coventry. The England selectors regularly chose players from the southern hemisphere for no other reason than that they were Rhodes Scholars at Oxford Come to that I am not sure they were all at the university in that capacity: Clive van Ryneveld and Murray Holmeyr from South Africa, Ian Botting from New Zealand, Basil Travers from Australia Their selection was, when you were ancient Celtic saints hopping

recollection, no protest was made at the time.

We are seeing, every evening on our television screens, the malign consequences of an obsession with nationality. Even so, I feel rugby union has become a little too freeand easy and its ways. I should certainly decree that, once a player had been capped by one country, be could not go on to represent another.

This would disqualify Howarth from representing Wales. It would also prevent the New Zealand selectors from treating Western Somoa as the junior academy of their national side, with players flitting between the islands as if they come to think about it, a thorough across the Irish Sea.

# **Edwards** still has Wembley in sights

FEARS THAT Shaun Edwards could miss his 11th Wembley cup final have eased with his thumb now thought to be badly bruised rather than being broken. Edwards captained the London Broocos to victory over Castleford in their semi-final last Saturday, despite needing a pain-killing injection in his hand at the half-time interval.

"It is still very sore and swollen, but we don't think it's broken," said the London coach, Dan Stains. "We still want him to go for an X-ray, because we don't want to take any risks with him."

The Broncos have also had better news about their man of the match, Steele Retchless, who could not see through one eye after the match.

"He has previously had a laser operation on his cornea and got an accidental finger in the eye during the match," said Stains. "He was a lot better yesterday and was able to train with us." Stains will bave another prop. Anthony Seibold, available for the match against Hull on Good Friday, after being signed too late to play in the cup competition.

The club could also revive last season's interest in the Featherstone front-rower, Stuart Dickens. Daryl Powell, who bas never played in a Wembley final in a career almost as long as that of Edwards, is Leeds' big concern in the build-up to this one. The veteran stand-off left the field with a foot injury during his Sunday and misses the return League points on Thursday.

Karl Pratt or Kevin Sinfield Marvin Golden will come in for every weekend on Sky.

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

their attentions to the Lancashire Lynx's Phil Jones, who joined them at the weekend.

Ikram Butt, the only Asian to shows that they do not intend to neglect the sizeable Asian population of the area.

rest of the season, BBC2 will package of the previous week-

A title and a presentation team for the programme, which North-East, has yet to be announced. It was hailed as a side's victory over Bradford on major step forward by Super League's managing director, nises that some free-to-air coverage is needed to complestand by to deputise, while ment the two live matches

Richie Blackmore, who has a recurrence of his groin injury. St Helens, preparing to meet Wigan on Friday, have signed their promising young halfback. Scott Barrow, to an improved two-year contract. Barrow was a transfer target for Wigan before they switched

play for England, has joined the Bradford staff, with responsibility for developing the game within the city. Butt retired last season after a playing career that included stints with Featherstone and London, as well as an international call-up against Wales in 1995. Bradford have a strong record of taking the code to their local community and the appointment of Butt

Super League is to have its own slot on terrestrial television for the first time. From 10 May and on every Monday for the show a half bour, early evening

will be screened in Lancashire. Yorkshire, Cumbria and the between the two clubs for Super Maurice Lindsay, who recog-

Cooper dances to a different tune PHIL COOPER knew it was time A new form of motor racing, Legends cars, is catching on to give up the day job with

ing is exciting, spectacular and

Two Legends cars take to the track as the wheel-to-wheel racing makes its British debut - 'It's a throwback to the good old days,' says Phil Cooper

versions of the classic "Bugsy Malone" American coupes and sedans of the 1930s, powered by a 1200cc Yamaha engine that produces speeds of up to 125mph. And the venues for the 16race circuit season feature

out developing an appetite for excitement and life on the edge. some of Britain's most famous Which explains why Cooper motor racing bomes. Brands has now found himself a new Hatch, Donington, Oulton Park, collection of Legends. And this Mallory Park and Knockhill time his sound of music is the are on the 1999 calendar and squeal of tyres and the roar of there is also a 21-race series on Indianapolis-style oval tracks. "I was with Island Records

Cooper, international director of Island Records until four from the start back in 1964 and years ago, is one of the driving then I spent 24 years travelling forces behind Legends Racing the world," says Cooper. "So when I left it behind, I needed Europe, giving spectators on this side of the pond a chance something that would give me to enjoy a brand of spectacular the same buzz. This is it. wheel-to-wheel motor sport that "Tve always been a motor attracts a huge following in the

racing fan and on one of my trips to the States I took the chance to watch Legends cars

in Britain after its US successes. By Andrew Collomosse in action. I was hooked. The rac-

> above all tremendous fun for everyone involved. "It's a throwback to what I call the good old days when motor racing had a smile on its face and people were happy to belp one another. If someone breaks down in Legends, the other teams don't look the other

way; they rally round and help. Isn't that what sport is supposed to be all about? In a way, I suppose, staging a race is a bit like cutting a disc or doing a concert. The driver is the artist, someone who wants a share of the limelight, enjoys signing autographs and likes to be up there on centre stage.

"The mechanics are the musicians, the circuit is the venue and the fans have come along for a good time because that's what the entertainment business is supposed to be about. I'm there to pull all the strings together." Yet, while the bodywork on

the lookalike Buicks, Dodges,

Chevvys and Fords comes

straight out of the Prohibition era, there is nothing too prohibitive about the economics. For Conper and co-director Fraser Kennedy believe they have come up with a package that gives aspirant racing drivers a chance to find a way into the sport without breaking the

bank manager's heart. All the Legends cars, fiveeighths replicas of the real thing, start at \$9,995 (£6,200) and have identical specifications. putting a premium on driving ability and set-up rather than the size of the bankroll providing go-faster tweaks.

compete in the six-race circuit season will cost a maximum of \$7,500, including entry fees, transport, accommodation and the inevitable breakages. "What other form of motor

sport gives you a chance to race at places like Brands and Donington for that kind of money?" asks Cooper, who has 21 cars on the grid for the cir-cuit series, which started at Mallory Park last weekend, and 12 for the ovais.

This year's field includes, among others, a female City investment banker, identical twin landscape gardeners, a plumber and a family trio of father, son and nephew, confirmation of Legends' catholic

Each round of the championship consists of three races. Grid places for the first heat are drawn out of a hat and the grid is reversed for the second heat. In the final, the fastest cars the back of the grid. Get the picture? Close racing and overtaking is guaranteed. Races. which will support this season's Eurocar Championship events, last no longer than about 10 minutes.

After seeing the cars in action at the Charlotte circuit in North Carolina I knew straight away how popular Legends could be over in Britain with both the drivers and the fans," says Cooper.

"It was a struggle for the first couple of years because we needed a few pioneers and everybody knows that pioneers have sometimes ended up with arrows in their backsides.

"Understandably, people had to be convinced that they weren't wasting their money, that we were here to stay, By increasing the size of the grid from six to more than 20 in three seasons, we've demonstrated that we are.'

## England find favour with the bookmakers

ENGLAND ARE 2-5 with William Hill to qualify (and 7-4 not to qualify) for the Euro 2000 finals and a top-price 14-1 with Coral and Stanley to win the tournament following Saturday's victory over Poland at Wembley, while Kevin Keegan is now a best-priced evens to be the next permanent England manager.

squad, England produced a The other "double carpet" creditable performance against a nation rated 27th in the Fifa rankings, but they have yet to entertain Sweden at Wembley and also face trips to Bulgaria and Poland.

The Netherlands, arguably unlucky to go out to Brazil on penalties in the semi-finals of the World Cup last summer and through to Euro 2000 as joint hosts, are favourites, while the most eyecatching nations in the qualifiers have been Italy, unbeaten in three games, and Euro 96 finalists the Czech Republic, unbeaten in four games and 50-1 with the Tote.

close eve on is Ukraine. They are 33-1 to win Euro 2000 yet Dynamo Kiev, the side that 11 in their goalless draw

SPORTS BETTING

in the semi-finals of the European Cup and are many people's idea of the winner.

Their continuity of their club The Boat race - more boring

stage bet 5-6 each of two and 100-1 the dead-heat.

The other nation to keep a the mugs - there would have to have been 20 dead-heats in this least competitive of sporting sbowdowns since Julius supplied seven of their starting Caesar dropped in to install central heating for those odds

cluding Cambridge, impressive against an Austrian crew from Gmunden recently, in those Saturday multiple bets, particularly if they draw the

The cars are scaled-down

Island Records. In his own

words, the music business is no

place for fiftysomethings. A

ponytail was never an option.

the company of recording

legends like Bob Marley, U2 and

Robert Palmer, however, with-

a Yamaha engine.

United States.

You don't spend 24 years in

	UK	9 2	000	,	
	C	Н	L	5	T
Notherlands	4-1	4-1	7-2	4-1	4-1
France	11-2	6-1	5-1	6-1	6-1
Italy	5-1	11-2	5-1	5-1	6-1
Germany	10-1	6-1	9-1	9-1	9-1
Spain	10-1	9-1	9-1	9-1	9-1
England	14-1	12-1	17-1	14-1	11-1
Sweden	14-1	16-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
Yogostavia	16-1	20-1	16-1	20-1	20-1
Belgium	20-1	20-1	30-1	22-1	20-1
Romania	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
Portugal	28-1	25-1	20-1	20-1	25-1
Creatia	26-1	33-1	25-1	25-1	20-1
Ukraine	78-1	25-1	16-1	28-1	33-1
Czech Republi	c 28-1	40-1	33-7	25-1	50-1
Horway	50-1	25-1	25-1	28-1	28-1

NEXT PERMANENT

ENGLAND MANAGER								
	н	L	T					
K Keegas	4-9	1-3	Erces					
R Hodgson	4-1	5-1	11-2					
D Platt	8-1	10-1	9-1					
T Venables	10-1	16-1	8-1					
m O'Nelli	18-1	16-1	10-1					
H Wilkinson	20-1	20-1	20-1					
Bryan Robson	17-1	25-1	10-7					
Bobby Robson	20-1	33-1	20-1					
J Gregory	20-1	33-1	20-1					
A Ferguson	16-1	50-1	14-1					
C Coral, H William	Hill, L Ladbr	okes. 5 Stan	ley. T Toce					
THE BOAT RACE	Canadavi: 1	نوا سکان	5-6 Cam-					

FA CARLING

Friday: Aston Villa v West Ham.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

10 Barnsley v Sherfield Utd .. 11 Bradford City v Grimsby .. 12 Bristol City v Port Vale .... 

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION 21 Slackpool v Walsati .

#### BY IAN DAVIES

France on Saturday night, are

game at national level must give them an edge and there Despite their depleted are many worse bets at 33-1. (33-1) nation to pay attention to are World Cup third-placers Croatia.

> than a personal finance supplement, yet those eternal optimists among us who were reared on Grandstand still tune in hoping that one year we will see a decent contest. And this might be the year.

Despite Cambridge's stranglehold, Oxford are being talked up and William Hill, the only firm pricing up the event at this The 100-1 a tie is strictly for

favoured Surrey side.

ENGLA	ND M	ANAG	ER
	н	L	
K Keegas	4-9	1-3	Esta
R Hodgson	4-1	5-1	11-7
D Platt	8-1	10-1	9-1
T Venables	10-1	16-1	8-
M O'Nell	18-1	16-1	10-
H Wilkinson	20-1	20-1	20-1
Bryan Robson	17-1	25-1	10-
Bobby Robson	20-1	33-1	20-
J Gregory	20-1	33-1	20-
A Ferguson	16-1	50-1	14-
C Coral, H William	Hill, L Ladbr	okes. 5 Stan	ley. T Too
THE BOAT RACE	Saturday): 1	نادا سالات	5-6 Çam

against the World Cup holders to be fair - but it is worth in-

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

THIRD DIVISION 28 Barnet v Hallfax 29 Cambridge Utd v Cardiff ..... 33 Hull v Scarborough ......... 34 Leyton Orient v Southend ......... 35 Mansfield v Brighton ......... 35 Mansfield v Brighton....... 36 Plymouth v Shrewsbury .... 37 Rochdale v Peterborough ...

BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE Aberdeen v Dunfermline ......

42 Dundee Lird v Motherwell

23 Manchester City v Wigan.... 24 Notts County v Burnley ..... 25 Stoke v Lincoln City ...... 26 Wresham v Bristol Rovers .... 46 Hamilton v Hitemian ... 47 Raith v Stranfaer ....... 48 St Mirren v Clydebank...

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

SECONDDIVISION

TEN HONEES: Leeds v Nottingham For-est: Bradford City v Grimsby; Sonderland v West Sromwich: Wolves v Portsmouth; Stoke v Lincoln City; Leyton Orient v Southend; Mansfield v Brighton; Scun-thorpe v Eveter; Cettic v Dundee; Raich v Stranger

FIVE AWAYS: Charlton v Chelsea; Hartle-pool v Brentford; Hearts v Klimarnock; Morton v Falkirk; Hamilton v Hoemian. pool v Brentford; Hearts v Klimarnock; Morton v Falkirk; Hamilton v Hibernian. FOUR DRAIMS: Blackburn v Middles-prough; Liverpool v Evercon; Wimbledon v Manhester Utd; Barnsley v Sheffield Utd. Pools forecast selections by Ian Davies 2.3. Adobe \_\_\_\_\_\_P Bredley 50-1 Aloc: 5-2 Suez Tornado (4th), 5-1 Lochdene (8th), 25-1 Encourser (5th), 25-1 Roberna. 7 ran. 8, ½, 4, 4, 1½, (K Ryan, Hambleton). Tote: win £10:10; places £200, £120. DF: £500, CSF; £18.75. FOUR DRAWS: Blackburn v Middles-brough: Liverpool v Evercon; Wimbledon v Manhester Ltd; Barnsley v Sheffield Utd.

SANDOWN

2.00 Dines 2.30 Irbee 3.05 Court Melody 3.40 LINTON ROCKS (nap) 4.10 Distant Echo 4.45 King Torus

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in places).

Ill Right-hand course; seven fences along back straight; run-in 300yds. ■ Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston. Ester station (service from London, Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club £16, Jurior Club (17 - 21yrs) £12; Grandstand & Peddock £10; Park £5, CAR PARK: Free.

- 27yrs) \$12; Grandstand & Peddock Path; Park S. CAR PARKS Free.
FIVE-YEAR RECORD

M LEADING TRAINERS: D Nicholson 22-105 (208%), J Old 19-61 (311%),
N Henderson 17-110 (155%), J Gifford 15-138 (103%),
M LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 31-132 (235%), A P McCoy 20-109
(183%), A Maguire 18-97 (186%), M A Fitzgerald 18-125 (144%),
M FAVOURITES: 157-453 (34.7%),
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Archive Oets & Sputtington (305).

2.00 SUMMIT CONFERENCES & MEETINGS NOVICE CHASE (D) £5,250 2m 12/222 DINES (12) (CO) P Nichols 7 tl 10 -3/4/11 CRCUS STAR (35) (0) O Nicholson 8 11 8. 35-430 MISSED CALL (61) M Tompkins 7 11 2 ....

BETTING: 1-2 Dines, 15-6 Circus Star, 16-1 Missed Call FORM VERDICT re-consistent DINES has a clear edge on form and is much the Re-st winner, with only a slight doubt about this faster ground and the striket he is nearing the end of a busy season to temper confidence. on so, he is a confident choice to see off Circus Star.

2.30 MOUSETRAP CUP NOVICE CHASE (D) 25,250 edded 2m 4f 110yds 1PP2m BISIEE (10) (D) P Nichols 7 m 8 -561F1 PRIDE OF THE SWORD (199) (D) M Jarvis 6 m 8... P-4233 BARHALE BOY 889) T Casey 1 m 0... 2-02FP TAKE COVER (11) M Tempkins 8 m 0...

- 4 declared -BETTING: 2-9 irbes, 13-2 Pride Of The Sword, 10-1 Barhate Boy, 14-1 Take Cover

**FORM VERDICT** 

IABEE has solid term, notably his handicap win last time, and although there is an obvious doubt about him handling the ground, he'll be hard to beat if he does cope with it. Unknown quantity Pride Of The Sword is respected, but he too has done his winning on soft, Barhale Boy could be twowed by making the running in this small field and he should not be underestimated, but Take Cover hes more to find.

3.05 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,500 added 3m 110yds

- PETRI COURT MELODY (18) (CD) P Nichols 11 12 10 Mr O Alens-Hankay (3) 8 

- 6 declared -BETTING: 4-5 Court Melody, 11-4 Brace D1 Mer, 11-2 Caribie Bendito's, 16-1 Yffichris, 25-1 Magnetic Reet, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT

COURT MELODY stands out whichever way you look at the form, especially since he goes well over this course and distance too. His temperament is a potential problem, but there are grounds for believing hell be in good heart after that recent course win. Cartisle Bandito's is good enough to make a race of it, and he can be confidently fenced to beat the rest.

3.40 ALANBROOKE MEMORIAL HANDICAP

CHASE (C) £8,000 3m 110yds
-212F3 LINTON ROCKS (18) (D) P Nichols 10 11 10
1-PPF1 RAMALLAH (50) (D) Miss H Kright 10 17 7
21/F1- GOD SPEED YOU (496) (D) C Worlock 10 ft 6
013142 SHARP COMMAND (17) (D) P Eccles 8 11 1 S Kelly (
3-5422 ALLER MOOR (115) (D) R Aher 8 11 0 A Thornto
43-5R VICOSA (146) (D) R Alner 10 11 0R Johnso
- 6 declared -

and, 11-4 Aller Moor, Linton Rocks, 9-2 Res

A competitive handicap in which SHARP COMMANO makes most appeal. A 5to rise for his latest detect here is off-putting, but he does seem to be on the upgrade and he looks sure to trun his race once again. After Moor will be a big danger at the weights if tuned up after his absence. Unition Rocks of them a recent run and should go well too but Sharp Command is preferred.

4.10 ROYAL STAR AND GARTER HOME HANDI-CAP CHASE (D) 26,000 2m 

FORM VERDICT

BETTING: 10-11 Distart Echo, 8-4 Xaipete, 11-2 Pkinder Bay. FORM VERDICT

DISTANT ECHO looks easily the pick of the weights and is entitled to win this even on the form of his lest-time-out second to the progressive Sol Music at Horeford, with the definite suspicion that he ident run to his best there. The ground will not be a problem either, Plunder Bay did a bit better last time and is narrowly preferred to Xalpete as the

4.45 'UBIQUE' HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) \$2,500

Ļ		1 800e0 2m 4f 110yas
1	21-530	KING TORUS (12) (D) V Dectoel 9 12 3 Hr J Julio
5	3113-4	REIGN DANCE (46) (D) Mrs D McCarthy 8 12 3 Hr T NoCard
3	2-050F	RYTON RUN (7) (U) Mrs S Odel 14 12 3 Mr A Windle (
4	/221-P	TRUE STEEL (40) (CD) J Trice-Rolph 13 12 3 Mr J Trice-Rolph (
5	<b>OP-8P5</b>	DE JORDAAN (17) X Tork 12 11 13 Major G Wheeler (
6	30/32P	MARCHING MARQUIS (13) (D BF) G Brown 8 Tt 13 . Ne T Gibney (
7	/4-PRU	QUICK SILVER BOY (P10) P Riddick 9 11 13
В	-3365P	SILVERFORT LAD (P23) J Honeyball 10 11 13 Mr A Honeyball (7)

uls, 5-2 King Torus, 9-2 Trus Steel, 6-1 Reion Dan

FORM VERDICT less most appeal, though the fact that he has been

well beaten in two of his last three runs does mean that he cannot be a confident choice. Even so, he has the best form and conditions will suit, so he is very much the one to best.

8-4 tav Mary's Feelings (pulled up), 11/4, 8.
(A Whitens), Tota: C520; £170, £210, £180
DF: £1240, CSF: £2567, Theast: £6198
4.00: 1, OUEENS BRIGADE (B Storey) 91; 2. Specialize 8-1; 3. Ambrech 5-1, 11 can.
8-11 tav Scotla Nostra (5th), 12, 3, (J Welton), Tota: £670; £10, £220, £180, DF:
£1700, CSF: £5790.
4.30: 1, ERINY (S Kely) 6-1; 2, Frat In The
Red 20-1; 3, Tennessae King 15-8 tav. 6
ran. 3, 20, (J Quirn) Tota: £520; £200, £330.
DF: £5490, CSF: £7855, Tincast: £28031, NRs.
Alpine Hödeavey, Bernebbo, 

BETTING: 5-2 Sharo Con

HAMILTON Going: Heavy 2.20; (fil maiden auction stakes, 2yo)

1. SAFFIZZ J Fortune 13-2

2. Harryana Fanaling 5-2 fav

3. Gain Time \_ \_\_\_\_\_ Peera 7-1

Also: 3-1 Lamborghini Loz, 8-1 Greek Fayr

(sth), 10-1 Hurtle (8th), 20-1 Deshing Denise

7 ram. 14, 3, 4, 12, 3, (K Ryan, Hambleton). Tote: win £800; places £310, £170. Dual Forecast: £1140. Computer Straight Fore-

mus (8th). 12 ran. 1 sh-hd, 4, 3 sh-hd. (E Alston, Long-ton). Tota: win £22.70; pieces £4.20, £2.20, £2.00. DF: £8760. CSF: £108.71. Tricast:

Also: 9-4 Domino Flyer (4th), 6-1 Jack The Lad (5th), 33-1 Full Moon (6th), 50-1 Beau 7 ran. 1, 8, 1/s, 3, 6. (P Eccles, Lambourn). pta: win £210; places £180, £210 DF: £5.30 3.50: (Ym 65yds, classrfied stakes) 1. RIBBLE ASSEMBLY\_D Glermon 10-1 2. Namy's Affair \_\_\_\_ Duffield Evens fav 3. Adobe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_P Bradley 50-1 Dean McKsown 5-4 fav
2. Citued Up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I F Egan 9-2
3. Repton \_\_\_\_\_\_ G Duffield 7-1
Also: 8-1 Hill Farm Dancer, 8-1 Prenium
Cuest, 10-1 Two On The Bridge (4th), 20-1
Philmist. 25-1 Palacegnes Jo (8th), 33-1
Bernie's Star (sirl), 100-1 Sun Mark.
10 ran. 5, 3, 17, 11, 1/s (K Hogg, Isle Of
Man). Tote: win £2.20; places £110, £2.00,
£2.40, DF: £630, CSF: £833, Tircast: £2673. Placepot: £13.70, Quadpot: £3.30, Place 6: £12.22, Place 6: £8.45.

HEXHAM Going: Home straight - Good; Back straight - Soft, Good to Soft in places)

2.00: 1. PLENTY COURAGE (B Storey) 4-11 tay; 2. Loose Caranon 9-2; 3. Limbeday 14-1, 8 nm. ½, 5. (F Storey), Tota: £120; £110, £110, £110, Dual Forecast: £210, Computer Straight Forecast: £2.24. 2.30: 1. HOWYOUDOING (Mr R Fortistal) 12-2.50 1, NOW THAT 13. Brownsath King 12-1; 4. Corbleu 14-1, 16 ran. 11-4 lav Pumbob 5th), 11-4, 6, (S Kattlewell), Tota: 13-70; 230, 5230, 12280, 12270, DF: £84.0, CSF: £15181, Tricast: £192040, No bid for the

write: 3.00: 1. CHARLIE BANKER (8 Kely) 5-2 ker; 2. Gleckel Dencer 11-2; 3. Calus 12-1; 4. Helmsley Filer 12-1 16 rain, nk, 7. (8 Butte). Tote: E330; 5140, 5130, 5270, 5240. DF: 5550, CSF. 5543 Tilicast: \$14047. 3.30: 1. CRYSTAL GIFT (1 Jerdine) 4-1; 2.

Double Agent 8-1; 3. King Pin 4-1, 8 ran.

Going: Good to Soft (soft in places) 2.10: 1. FORTY FORTE (T Culm) 13-6 fav; 2. Sounds Cool 18-1; 3. Needwood Maestry 14-1, 11 ren. 15, 2/s. (M Chennen, Upper Lambourn). Tote: \$2.46; \$1.40, \$25.0, \$25.0, \$1.40, \$25.0, \$25.0, \$1.40, \$25.0, \$25.0, \$1.40, \$25.0, \$1.40, \$1.

Alpine Holeaway, Bernetbio. 5.00: 1. FISHKI'S LAD (N Homocks) 10-1; 2. Weaver Sem 5-1; 3. French Willow 10-

2. viewer sein 5-1: 3. Peinch Willow 10-1. 21 ran. 2-1 tav Wynyard Dancer. ½, nk. (M Harmond). Tota: £14.30; £3.50. £3.00. £3.70. DF: £43.60. CSF: £65.30. Placepot: £626.40. Quadpot: £31.60. Place 6: £336.29. Place 5: £858.97.

NOTTINGHAM

STIQ 12.20. DF: \$3.00. CSF: \$5.34
3.10: 1. BALSOX (T Currn) 4-7 fav: 2. Prince Stayer 3-1; 3. Kent 100-1 9 ran. 1½, 5 J Duniop, Aundel), Tola: £140; £100 £110, £150, DF: £170, CSF: £2.00
3.40: 1. LIVELY LADY (I. Detton) 8-1; 2. Moocha Cha Man 12-1; 3. Bundy 20-1; 4. Risky Valentine 20-1; 15 ran. 11-2 fav Ashover Amber, ½, 1½, (J. Jenkins, Royston), Tote: £440; £130, £560, £180, £2.60, DF: £4380, CSF: £6427, Theast: £1307:37, 4.10: 1, FREDERICK JAMES (I. Detton) 44-1; 2. Pleading 4-1 fav; 3. Mike's Double 10-1; 4. Black Army 20-1; 20 ran. 2½, nk. (H. Heynes, Highworth), Tote: £3850; £580, £190, £240, OF: £9830, CSF: £6256, Tricast: £56454.

4.40; 1. SWIFT (Martin Dwyer) 6-1; 2. Puz-zisment 20-1; 3. Kennet 20-1, 14 ran. 5, shziement 20-1; 3. Kennet 20-1, 14 ran, 5, sn-hd. (M Polgissa, Newmarket). Tote: £5.20; £2.30, £3.70, £5.90, DF: £34.40, CSF: £116.79.

5.10: 1. ROBELLITA (J Stack) 4-1 tar: 2 5.10: 1. ROBELLITA (J Stack) 4-1 str; z. Nikita's Star 16-1; 3. Golden Ace 25-1: 4. Brandon Court 23-2 15 ran. 1/s. 5 (S Smort, Lambourn). Tota: 2600; £150, \$460, £170, \$220, DF: £38.80, CSF: £54.48. Trioast: £1378-49 Jackpot: £31,566.50. Placepot: £65.00. Quadpot: £5960.

Place 6: £114.59, Place 5: £53.17. Jeremy Noseda is to run his

1.000 Guineas "second string" at

Kempton on Saturday. Alexis

is entered in the Masaka Stakes, which would be her first outing for the trainer after being placed in Listed company for Dermot Weld in Ireland last season. The filly is an outsider in the Guineas betting, for which her stable-companion Wannabe Grand is at shorter odds. "Alexis runs on Saturday and I hope Pat Eddery will be able to ride ber," Noseda said yesterday. Wannabe Grand, the Cheveley Park Stakes winner, will be entered for the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket. Raise A Grand, the Pip Paynetrained Dewhurst Stakes fifth, beads six 2,000 Guineas entries among 14 colts in Saturday's Easter Stakes at Kempton.

RESULTS NEWCASTLE 3.20 41 92 72 41 41 54 13-2 7-4 11-2 13-2 82 11-2 6-1 13-2 7-1 Naty Norman 7-1 17-2 8-1 6-1 6-7-1 7-1 94 64 74 Mungio Park 9-1 10-1 11-1 10-1 10-1 Gay Stragge 14-4 10-1 11-1 10-1 10-1 141 131 131 141 121 Site College 16-1 16-1 16-1 16-1 18-1 Northern Swang, 20-1 15-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 Cartenol Park 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 fours Banks 25-1 20-1 12-1 20-1 14-1 Grey Kingdom 25-1 33-1 20-1 33-4 33-1 Rose's Treasure 33-1 33-1 22-1 33-1 20-1

Comparison 351 33-1 251 251 251

Seeled By Fate 50-1 33 1 33-7 33-1 33-1

Each way a quarter the ookls, places 1, 2, 3, 4

C Cora, H With HR L Landraies S Series T De

\*THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS SANDOWN 971 981 NEWCASTLE 972 982

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CONTRACTOR

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Jan Barrell

# Double exposure for Hills

IT WOULD be interesting to BY GREG WOOD know what the marketing department of William Hill estimated to be the likely downside of the firm's decision to give away £1.8m in free bets last month. Not much, you suspect, since the bets in question -90.000 of them, distributed to disappointed applicants for shares in Hills' abortive flotation - could be placed only as 220 win doubles on the Lincoln at starting price, and Right and the Grand National, But after the victory of Right Wing in Saturday's opening leg, the people who dreamed it up might yet find that they have fl.im come up with the most expen-

So far, the figures are these.

Hoover decided to offer free

90,000 applicants were left without the shares they had registered to buy. All received the free £20 bet on the Spring Double, and about 10,000 managed to find the Lincoln winner, either by specifying Right Wing by name, or by asking for the bet to ride on "the favourite" Since bets will only be settled Wing's SP was 9-2, these lucky punters now have a free £110 bet running on to the National, which is a grand total of about

Again, many have specified sive publicity wheeze since the unnamed favourite for the second leg of the bet. With less than two weeks to go to the race, this seems likely to be When the flotation was Double Thriller, whose name

strangely appropriate. Hills' run-up to the race on Saturday keep the favourite's price down, stantial liability if a fancied early estimate is that a quarter of all the running-on money will attach itself to Paul Nicholls's chaser, who finished fourth in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham. If be is successful, at odds of, say, 4-1, they will stand to pay out around £1.3m.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Souperficial (Newcastle 3.20) **NB: Count Karmuski** (Newcastle 3.55)

Not surprisingly, this poten-tial liability has rather skewed William Hill's ante-post book, and they now go 7-2 against Double Thriller when 5-1 is available elsewhere. This ensures that they will not add to week, which is reasonable enough. It is disappointing, though, to find that there is little value further down their list to make up for the short price about the favourite. They are top-priced about just one of the first nine horses in the betting, while Stanley, by contrast, manage to offer the clear or ioint-best odds about six of the

Still, the knowledge of Hills' big liability should make for some interesting trading in the ring on National day. The oncourse bookies have no such worries, and are more than bright enough to work out that around the situation, and it's not every extra half-point on Double Thriller's starting price will for anything else. You don't put stand to cost Hills about £1.8m of free bets into the mar-£125,000. The firm will need to ket without being aware that

same entries.

just as they did at Doncaster on horse wins the first leg, but it's Saturday, when Hills sent an opportunity to introduce a £16,000 into the ring to shorten large number of novice punters favourite for the 2,000 Guineas up Right Wing, and another £10,000 to do the same to Captain Scott, the runner-up. At such a short price about a horse with no National experience, in a field of 30 or more runners, the ring will accommodate them all day.

At Hills' head office, though, panic has yet to set in. "If you're going to have big liabilities, this is the race to have big liabilities in," Graham Sharpe, the firm's spokesman, said yesterday. "You can make a book feed money to the course to you stand to acquire a sub-

to our business, and even the 80,000 that backed losers on Saturday had a lot of fun."

Of course, even if Double Thriller does win the National and Hills pay out £1m or so, they will receive a fair slice back from their hedging bets, while the publicity for the firm in the run-up to the biggest betting race of the year is also priceless.

They also have a friend in a high place, the Patron Saint of Bookmakers, who always seems to sort out a means of salvation for his flock when they are facing a difficult situation. Then again, this time he may decide that if a bookmaking firm hands out 90,000 free bets, that's their problem.

## Stravinsky flop lets in Mujahid

MUJAHID, THE winner of the Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket last autumn, has shortened to become the top-priced 5-1 with William Hill as a result of Stravinsky's defeat at the Cur-

ragh on Sunday. Stravinsky finished behind Mujahid in the Dewhurst last year, but had nevertheless shortened up to become clear favourite for the 2,000 Guineas over the winter. However, the 2-5 favourite proved a big disappointment in the Loughbrown Race over seven furlongs on Sunday, going down by a head to the Kevin Pren-

dergast-trained Tarfaa. Afterwards Aidan O'Brien, Stravinsky's trainer, suggested the colt may not be his principal 2,000 Guineas hope. O'Brien could also call upon Black Rock Desert, Orpen or Lavery, although the last-named is thought less forward than his stable companions at present. O'Brien had better fortune at

BY IAN DAVIES

the Curragh with Saffron Waldon, who enhanced his Classic claims with a length victory over Carhue Gold in the Home Of The Classics Maiden.

Interest in the Oaks is limited and most bookmakers are finding it hard to form a market. However, William Hill and Stanley both make Sunspan gled, winner of the Fillies' Mile at Ascot, their favourite.

Belmont King was yesterday cut to 16-1 from 25-1 for the Grand National by Coral.

OAKS STAKES (Epsom, Friday, a June): William Hill: 6-1 Sunpengled, 10-1 Erlathya, 12-1 Seytarra, 14-1 Kizing, 16-1 others. Stanley: 8-1 Sunspengled, 10-1 Edabya, 14-1 Kizing, Seytarra, 16-1 Calando, 20-1 Exza 22, Heelanon, Oriental Feshon, Meleraine Gat, az. Hielatoro, Oriental Feshico, Veteratine Gat, 25-1 Barnatamy, Kareymein, Mother Of Pearl, 33-1 Alabano, Apple Of Kerti, Aspen Leaves, City Of Gold, Claston, Crystal Downs, Farry Cusen, Fathia, Ratayda, See Picture, Secret Wells, Social Scene, Subsen, Subson, Wido Heaven, Welmah, Zahrat Dubas, 40-1 Aus-pacous, Bountful Lady, Kaffarane, Kristra, Mrs. Skiddons, Peacara, Pink Coral, Three Green, Leaven.

# Osborne's aim is to train on Flat

JAMIE OSBORNE has his sights JAMIE OSBORNE has his sights Not many in racing would onciled and, somewhat ironifized on a new career as a have tipped Osborne to call it cally, he is stepping down just are or chall be is to retire After a traumatic year punctuated by injury and his arrest by police investigating race-fixing, Osborne, 31, revealed his decision in a speech at The Lesters awards ceremony for

"I feel now is the right time to go," Osborne said, "and I'd like to thank so many people, especially Oliver Sherwood no's backed me all the way. "I'm going to get my teeth fixed now and then open an account with Ladbrokes."

Osborne, one of the most stylish and articulate jump jockeys of the past decade, affirmed that his retirement had not been prompted by his entanglement with the police. After 10 months on police bail he was finally cleared of any wrongdoing last November.

"All that stuff had nothing to do with my decision to go," he said. "Part of me has not been enjoying the job recently.

"Flat racing has always fasto get started next season although I don't yet know where - That's open to negotiation." pair have long since been rec-

2.15 Forest Queen

3.20 Young Bigwig

trainer of Flat racehorses after a day before his fellow Lam- a fortuight after Pitman anmulti-proof nicers dichard pourced har in entire the terms immediately from race-riding. Dunwoody and Graham Bradley. However, Osborne said: There are plenty of jockeys who should have given up far earlier than they did but I think some of them were just frightened to. I was determined this

> wasn't going to happen to me. "I'm really excited about the future and will not be looking back. I certainly won't miss going to Ludlow on a Thursday.

"There have been plenty of ups and downs and I couldn't have done it all without lots of help - it would have been impossible to have ridden for 14

"Oliver has been wonderful and I can't believe there would be a better trainer to ride for. He's had a difficult couple of years but I hope the yard can come out of it and I wish them all the best."

Yorkshire-born Osborne's intelligence and willingness to learn was always likely to see him become a success as a jockey. He quickly progressed from cinated me and the intention is a promising amateur to the to give it a go as a trainer. I plan ranks of fully-fledged jockey.

A thumping from Jenny Pitman brought unwanted head-I'm going to be operating from lines early in his career, but the

NEWCASTLE

SOING: Jumps - Good (Good to Soft in places); First - Good to Soft (Good in places). STALLS: Inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low may be best up to 71.

STALLS: RISSO. DYLAW AUTOMITICS: LIW May be used up to 7.

If Lift-hand, oval course; tough, galloping track.

If Course is on A1, 5m N of town. ADMISSION: CAU 5:15 (2:13 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (2:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (2:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (2:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (2:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Description for Ring £5 (2:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (3:3 for OAPs and registered disabled); Styler Ring £5 (

## CEADING TRANSPS: ## OF INSTANCE S. ## OF INST

2.15 EBF MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,500 added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £3,009

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Happy Times: Timeless Times colt out of the very speedy but slow-makining Penny Hisseet, Yards youngsters frequently improve with racing.

Hisseet, Yards youngsters frequently improve with racing.

Hisseet, Yard produced Brockleeby States runner-up Lord Bardess last Thursday.

Red San: Feedound colt, hell better to 5t winner Domestes. Yard wan this race last year and opened its juvenile account with Singsong at Doncaster on Seturday.

Horses Emperor: Lyclus colt out of Subya. Looks stable second-string here.

Horses Emperor: Lyclus colt out of Subya. Looks stable second-string here.

Forest Cheen: Resk Me sizer to a middle-distance winner. 20-1 when carried left start, shape behind, 14 lengths 12th of 5 to Saraphins at Doncaster (5) stakes, good second here and first juvenile runner nerrowly bettern at Hamilton yeaterday.

VERDICT: Bill Turner is rarely far off the mark with his youngstern in the north, and his lesses clearly in good form KINGSTON BILL looks the acrt to keep the pot boiling and he is likely to be better value than Red Sun, from a yard whose newcomers often start at a false price. The sheeply-bred Knetva could be the pick of the remainder.

2.45 NORTHERN RACING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £2,253

\*\* Ti declared - 11 declared - 12 declared -

FORM GUIDE

isogne-tred lates! Looks it knows to Abrighton at Musselburgh when its lengths 6th of 10 Shelet Felled to build on 3rd to Abrighton at Musselburgh when its lengths 6th of 10 Shelet Felled to build on 3rd for a good to soft. Possibly needs test surface to Lobuche at Mighter Resen (2m1f now, good to soft passibly needs test surface to Lobuche at metch between HIGH PYRENEES VERDICT: This appears likely to bod down to a metch between HIGH PYRENEES VERDICT: This appears by led you with Adrest Maguire replacing a 7th claimer, has and Ryadox. Feder Musphy's geiding, with Adrest Maguire replacing a 7th claimer, has been given a considerate build-up, and the extra hell-mis here should help him off the mark. Ryadox should benefit from a more galloping course following his good effort at Mariet Resen but the trip looks a minimum for him.

7 Homen Emperor 1996. Speedy James 2 8 6 O Carter evens tav (J Berry) drawn (2) T ran

2.45 High Pyrenees (nb) 4.25 Springwood

3.55 Flat Top

5.00 Old Hush Wing

"There's no connection between her going and me going," Osborne grinned yesterday. "It's pure coincidence."

As his riding career blos-

somed, Osborne was associated with numerous top-class horses, although he was never to become champion jockey. He rode a record-equalling five winners at the Cheltenham Festival in 1992, notably Nomadic Way and Remittance Man. "There have been a lot of good horses and it would be difficult to say which one sticks out, though I do remember

Shadow Leader winning so well

at Cheitenham," he said.

Osborne was probably at the height of his powers when suffering a badly broken wrist at Cheltenham in November, 1997. Barely able to lift a spoon for many months, that injury kept him off the course for almost a year and he received a tremendous ovation when riding Coome Hill to victory on his return to action at Ascot last October. The success had added poignancy as the race was run in memory of his good

friend John Durkan. Oliver Sherwood, with whom



Osborne, 'one of the best jockeys we have seen in a long time'

an outstanding stable jockey. We have always got on well and Jamie was like a brother - he was a great communicator with

"Whatever he does now I am

partnership, said: "Jamie was has got a very good brain in his horseman-jockeys. He really head."

Nicky Henderson, for who described him as "one of the year at Cheltenham when he best jockeys we have seen in a long time".

was in the John Francome league at presenting a horse a Osborne rode Remittance Man, a fence. He had a wonderful rode five winners including Remittance Man and it was great

#### 3.20 CORAL SPRINT HANDICAP (CLASS D) £10,000 added 5f Penalty Value £7,003 Copperhant: Looks a remote prospect on lease under handicap here Sedgefield (2m5i hosp, good to soft) and 11 ib out of the handicap here

- 16 declared 
- 18 declared 
Alicitrum weight: 7st 10th. True handices weight: SN: Cottage 7st 9th.

SETTING: 9-2 Torn Tun, 11-2 Unstriates, 13-2 Maltenestic, 15-2 Nitty Norman, 8-1 Malacrab, 16-1

Gay Breem, Goretaid, 11-1 Mungo Parit, 14-1 Young Bigwig, 16-1 Slit Cottage, 20-1 Grey Magdom, Northern Svengell, Rose's Treasure, 25-1 Cartaiel Parit, Scaperlicial, 33-1 Sealed By Fate
1996: Westcourt Magic 6 8 13 L Characck 13-2 (M W Esstarby) drawn (11) 13 ran

FORM GUIDE

Gray Kingdom: Good 2nd in Ayr Silver Cup last backend from 2th lower. Early speed when 12th of 10 to Marsed at Doncester (\$1 hosp, good) on Friday, but tinds 61 a minimum these clays, even when conditions are testing.

Gay Breaze: Frankline without has seeson and later successful at Doncester and Hay-

Carry breeze: Frey-time without sext season and plant successful actionocyster and resp-dock. Capable of a good show off this mark and stable in few form. Murgo Park: Good 2nd in this race lest year from 15th lower for Lynda Ramsden and leter successful twice over CAD and at Beverlay and Nothingham. Chance, but facts assistance of Jimmy Fortune, for whom he goes particularly well. Cartanel Park: Winner of poor meldon over CAD lest term. Locks harshy treated against Cartinel Park: Winner of poor metern over CAD issuem. Looks history tressed against mainly older thatis and query over his ability in the soft Northern Svengelit Dual Calteriot 51 winner lest backend, but occasionally slow starter. Something to find in this company and high draw to overcome. Gonetald: Four-time winner over 51 lest term, lettest off this mark at Beverley. Capable of taking a hand but usually needs an outing or two these days. Young Bilgwigs Winner from 75b higher at Hamilton lest term and goes particularly well.

of taking a hand but usually needs an outing or two these days. Young Bigwig: Winner from 7th higher at Hamilton last term and goes particularly well in the mud. Could go well from good draw, but pirferred on all-weather lately Unetreten: Early-sesson Certiste and Hamilton scorer lest term and nicely handicapped on close 2nd to Shall at Haydock in Sept. Vard in form at Hamilton yesteddy and Fallon booking looks significant, but high draw oould be a problem. Meliteemis: On a long toting run on turt, but twice successful on AAW lately. Capable of a good show off this mark, but flads onlineant trip on sharp side in this grade flages" in Tressurer: Fallot to progress after first-time win at Donoseter last March. Appears to need an easy 5f and likely to struggle here on backend evidence (tillity Hormstro Disappointing after narrow defeat from 10 higher on 1996 debut for Jack Berry, but in fine form for new yard on all-weather and looks likely leading player, despite moderate draw.

er, despite moderate draw Tom Tun: Improving fast on the AW (winner on equitrack and fibresand) and thrown In here on latest form, 6f course winner in Sept (from 8tb lower) and one to keep on the right side from a good draw Souperficiel: Winner of Carlisis and Hamilton claimers last term and close 2nd to Mis-

Souperingue: Vening of Cereae and resinant desirate ask term and once and own-ser Westsound at Ayr (it, heavy) from 1b lower in Oct. Looks exposed here. Seeled by Fate: Improved form when returned to \$f last season(twice namonly best-ern in Beverley handleses from anound this mark) but yet to show his best on soft Bloklarratic Consistent performes from anound this mark last term, but much improved on AW this wires, scoring the times. Reasonably drawn and go close if he can trans-Of AVM this warm, source a read of the control of t

VERDICT: A low draw is usually on advantage on soft ground here, although the winner came from the high numbers last term. The situation is further complicated by all-weather form, which gives TOM TUN and Moleumab outstanding chances. Julie Crazaris lightly-reced four-year-old could prove the batter but, as he did not get his act together until the backend of the last fur season, frequently starting slowly. The minimum trip is possibly on the attains paide for him, but the stiff frack and easy ground are on his side. Unahadan and Mungo Park could be the pick of the remainder.

3.55 POLYFLOR HANDICAP CH 3m Penalty Value £2,788 POLYFLOR HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 

FORM GUIDE

Buclaskin Boy: 4th in a point-to-point last year, but only a hint of ability under Rules and beaten 45 lengths when Str of 10 to Sel On Sid at Cartiale) 2m4 not hide, heavy) flate Cunningham: Temperamental sort who has refused twice and weekened from 3 out when 20 lengths 7th of 22 Carnier. Capers here (2m not, actf) laiset 3 out when 20 lengths by Carnier. Capers in a strong 2m novice (sort) here to days ago, beaten 1½ lengths by Carnier. Capers in a strong 2m novice (sort) here to days ago, beaten 1½ lengths by Carnier. Capers in a strong 2m novice (sort) here to days ago, following a lay-off. Stronger handing here and should go close following a lay-off. Stronger handing here and should go close indien: Gunter: Signa of shaky when 21 lengths 5th in a Haydock bumper. Out of a indien: Gunter: Signa of shaky when 21 lengths 5th in a Haydock bumper. Out of a indien: Gunter: Signa of shaky when 21 lengths 5th in a Haydock bumper. Out of a indien: Gunter: Signa of shaky when 21 lengths 5th in a Haydock bumper. Out of a indien. Gunter: Signa of shaky when 21 lengths 4th and indient and provides promise on Pursulvered Some ability as a mader on the Fat, but no instruction on Pursulvered Some ability as a mader on the Fat, but no instruction on Pursulvered Some ability as a mader on the Fat, but no instruction on Pursulvered Some Martion point-to-point whiner last season. 65-1 chance and pulsed up Rusming Mose: Martion point-to-point whiner last season. 65-1 chance and pulsed up Rusming Mose: Martion point-to-point whiner last season. 65-1 chance and pulsed up Rusming Mose: Martion point-to-point whiner last season. 65-1 chance and pulsed up Rusming Mose: Martion point-to-point whiner staying on 12 lengths 2nd of 16 Rusming Mose: Martin promise of Hastham debut when staying on 12 lengths 2nd of 16 Rusker Cartier to promise of Hastham debut when staying on 12 lengths 2nd of 16 Rusker Cartier to Indie not 2nd 10 Sect On The Lash at Martier Resen (2m3) not only be set month. Stable in batter to Back On The L — o u modared —
— o u modared —
— Habitoum weight: 10st. True handlosp weight inch Wey Bet 78, Copperhass Set 38.

BETTING: 13-6 Flat Top, 3-1 Bornt hap, 4-1 Count Karponett, 9-2 Weaver George, 8-1 Inch Wey,

006: Azacha Rakter 6 10 3 P Carberry 10-1 (F Murchy) 13 ran. FORM GUIDE

......A Maguire ......I Collaghan ......R McGrath

Weaver George: 11-length winner from 8tb lower over 2:n4f here (heavy) lest month. Slightly unlucky when remowly bestem by Nijesy over same G&D lest time from 3tb lower, but all to do here over a trip which stretches his stamine That Top: Back to his best when besting Jymjam Johnny 18 lengths over C&D (soft) latest. Not overburdened with 8b has and big chance if his jumping holds up Count Karnasski: Dual Cattarids winner, the latest from 5b lower over 2m3t. Not the best of jumpings and could find these fences and new trip a demanding test

grand on the second communities of the grand community of the second community of the second community and the

He was one of the greatest to be a part of tha Burnt imp: Expensive since early-season Kelso win from 3th lower. Best effort for a while when 2 lengths 2nd to Cerley Lad over C&D lotest and should be thereabouts took Way: Improved display when beaten 14 length by Cerley Lad at Wetherby (2met loag, soft) in Dec and could progress again over this trip, but 7th out of weights Coppenhanat: Looks a remote prospect on leaset distent 4th of 8 to River Unshion at

VERDICT: FLATTOP won with such authority at the last meeting, that he is difficult to oppose with only a 6th rise. He flet style of jumping leaves a bit to be desired, but a clear round should gible him the edge on the back-to-form Burnt keep and inch Way, whose stable has been in fine form lately. A 25 RAMSIDE EVENT CATERING MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS

	.25	D) £5,250 added 7f Penalty Valua £3,615
1		SILVER PRINCE (J Gibertson) D Nicholis 4 8 12
2	5	SPRINGWOOD (46) (Mrs D M Swirtsum) A Fahey 48 12A Winston (3) 2
8	. 6	FINE AND ROSY (41) (May J Palmer) M Docks 49 T Date Gibeon 5
4		PLOCRISO THE FOREST (J McLaren) Miss 1. Perratt 3 8 11 J Carroll 4
5	30-	LITTLE AMEN (144) (Shelith Arnin Derham) J Bothel 8 8 11 J Weaver 7
6		PLUTOCRAT (Lucayan Study J Noseda 88 11 L Deliant 3
T	00050-	CALICO LADY (215) (Drakemyre Racing) W Kemp 8 86
6		FORUM GERL (USA) (Mrs J Correy) M Johnston 3 8 6 8 Holland 1
8		PRECIOUS MOMERTS (Carton Appointments Ltd) D Smith 86 6
		-5 declared -
BET	TING: 13	-8 Plutocret, 9-4 Forum Girl, 4-1 Little Amin, 18-1 Springwood, 12-1 Silver Prince,

25-1 Phonso/Buttered, Cellico Leddy, Pressious Rhomeacht, 3-1 Fine And Rosey 1988: White Heart 8 8 11 D Holland 3-1 (M Johnston) chewn (10) 14 ran

FORM GUIDE Silver Prince: Mystiko gekting out of 71 winner Hawellen Song, making his debut Stable not noted for first-time winners. Springwood: Green Desert helf-brother to a useful miler Eurolink Thunder, Doing good

Springwood: Green Desert helf-brother to a useful miler Eurolink Thunder, Doing good iste work when 7 lengths 6th of 12 to Kentucky Bullet on debut at Southwell (7t maid-en) lest month and is one to note in the market on first turn during Fine And Rossy: SS-1 and tailed-off only start, on Wolverhapton AAW in Dec Floorne Tailedrest: Forest Wind colt out of a lightly-acced mere. Little Annice Flenty of promise when staying on 7 lengths 8th of 22 to Mutastidid at Donesster (8t maiden, good to soft) in Nex Stiffer course and longer trip should suit Platformit; Polar Falcon newcomer out of Choire Mhor, from a yerd which malest few misteless when the market signets are positive. Detort booking locks significant. Callice Lady: Little sign of ability so far Forum Girk American-bred Shelidh Abadou filly out of on unreced mere. From sepowerful yard and worth a check in the market.

Precious Miscantic Poler Falcon filly, half-eight to 3 winners

VERDICT: Jerson Neason of the market in little at the weekend and a positive

VERDICT: Jeremy Noseda got off the merk in italy at the weekend and a positive move for his newcomer Plutocrat would be significant, but there is likely to be more value in LITTLE AMIN, who showed planty of ability lest backend and could put his

5.00 ST MODWEN HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,500 added 2m 19yds Peneity Value £2,572 

— 11 declared — EETTING: 100-50 Gaszon City, T-2 Old Humb Wing, 7-1 Swiftway, 8-1 Beloutoffiniblus, Cinder Hille, Sive Au Inch, Highfield Fizz, 10-7 Campaign, Ranger Stores, 14-1 Black les Boy, 18-1 Kephrac 1988: Outset 6

FORM GUIDE Clarifer Hiller: Fipon double scorer lest April. Reasonably weighted on mid-easeon Hay-dock 2nd to Peirumeni Starr (tim6f hosp, good to firm) but ran inexplicably badly over hurdes recently rdes recently importance on the Flat lest 4 years and something of unknown quantity as but useful staying hurder at his best, although out of sorts this winter. Fallon booking

looks interesting with yeard back in form:
Queton City: On the upgrade on A/M recently, eased down when bearing Mudlark
at Southwell (an Incap) lasted. Reasonably realed on beat but form
Give An lactr. Lost her form on fast ground after easy mid-sesson wins in the mud
at Ayr. Stays well and could prove nicely treated 5 the ground cuts up

as 791. Says was and occup prove nepty training a train occup po-Swiftwary: Weighted to go close on easy Beverley win (2m hosp, good) over Mondragon from 4th lower in July, but inconsistent and usually needs the nun, although yard is already off the mark. Highteliel Fisce Early-season Pontefract winner less term and later successful at Mus-selburgh from 5th highes, but on the side later and has had breathing problems. Beforefolkhinkture: Has changed hands twice since landing first career win at Ponte-fract in Australia. Bathotoftheblus: Has changed hands twice since landing first career wit at Pontefrect in August (2m hosp, good to firm) from 4to lower, Needs extreme destinces.

Old Husel Wing: Cosely weighted with Queson City on Southweil AVV 2m form last
month and could play leading role on pick of furf form, although lacks furn of foot
Black for Boys Eathy-seeson Pontefrect winner last term (2mth hosp, soft) but out of
form on AVV and over hurdes lastly. Needs extreme distances and planty of mud
Ranger Steener. Cetterick from twinner in 1897. Lightly reced on turf since and something to find, although in decemb form over hurdes recently
Kephren: Minor-league withner in teland two seesons ago. Feeling his age last term
and an poorly on sole AVV start for new connections in Dec. Difficult to fairly

MERDICET. Becamel Contractions and the CESTON CONTRACTION CONTRACTION.

VERDICT: Recent all-weather form points to QUEZON CITY, who had any amount in hand on his latest start. He has been left on a decent turf mark after losing his form lest sessor. More aim would reste Give An inch a potent threat, and a market move for Swittenby could be significant.

GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP			٠.	_	
2-14 DOUBLE THROLER (23) P Nichols Syo TOst Sho	41		<u>_</u>	41	_
2P4432 CALL IT A DAY (21) 6 Nicholson Syo 10st	18-1		18-1		_
P-PF3S ADDINGTON BOY (23) (C) F Marphy tiyo 10st 76	10-1		B-1	12-1	_
5-240 EUDIPE (42) (8F) M Ppe 7yo 10st 10b	8-1		10-1	12-1	
F-3222 FIDDLING THE FACTS (42) (8F) IN Henderson Byo Tlat 3			10-1	12-1	
61-1F6 GENERAL WOLFE (42) (8F) Miss V Williams 10/10 Tist 10	14-1		14-1	141	_
P. R. C. St. Company of the St.	164	27.0	-	441	
ACCO SANCE DESIGNATION OF ACCOUNT OF A STATE				20-1	
1-12PO EARTH SIMMET (77) (CD) N Twiston-Davies tilyo fist	10-1		20-1		
2-11FP SURY BAY (23) 8 Sherwood 10yo 11st 12th	1G-1		14-1	20-1	
51-SIP BARONET (21) (C) D Nicholson Byo 10st 26	20-1		20-1	141	
F49-P6 ERELAICHT KING (120) P Nichola 11yo 10st 7to	16-1		16-1	16-1	
BSMID PAPILLON (24) TWHISH (61) ByO 10st 13:	dbi		_=	dbi	
500541 BOBENJO (34) T Carbany (44) Byo Bst	25-1	33-1	20-1	28-1	33
3P-1PP COOME HILL (105) W Danns 10yo 10st 11b	33-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	33
201PTS HOLLYBANK BUCK (21) A J Martin (4) 9/o 8st 9lb	dbt	dat		dbi	33
1-215P KENDAL CAVALLER (63) N Hanks Byo 8st 11 b	20-1	33-1	28-1	25-1	25
SS/81 BETTY'S BOY (25) K Salley 10yo Sat 13b	25-1	33-1	28-1	40-1	33
36THO LINDEN'S LOTTO (25) (C) (BP) A.J Martin (ch) 10yo 9st	33-1	40-1	33-1	33-1	40
8-22FP SAMBLEE (1993) (C) P Hobbs 10-941-4th	40-1		33-1	40-1	40
4F0020 SENOR EL BETHUTTI (23) Mrs S Nock 10yo 10st 7lb	25-1	_	50-1	40-1	3
FP-P1P ROUGH OUEST (28) (CD) T Casey 13yo 10st 7to	50-1		33-1		
IIPP2P TAMARINEO (FR) (25) (C) M Ppe Byo Tod 4b	50-1		50-1	404	40
USP-40 TIME FOR A RUN (25) E O'Guedy July 12yo But 12fo	50-1		58-1	58-1	50
	_				
12P32 ANABATIC (49) M J D'Brien (11) Tryo BelSib	06-1	66-1	66-1	50-1	33
AVRO ANSON (161) Miss J Camacho tryo Test	50-1		86-1	86-1	-
/3P-0 BELLE LIFE (24) (C) P Hobbs 10yo 10st	40-1		86-1	50-1	50
2UOP BRAVE HIGHLANDER (38) J Giford 11yo Bet 12to	40-1	56-1	50-1	40-1	50
PF2950 CAVALERO (21) (C) H Menners 10yo 8st 5tb	66-1	50-1	40-1	40-1	40
P-P4P CYBORGO (FR) (42) (C) M Pipe Byo Yost 11 b	40-1	86-1	86-1	50-1	50
A0-40 MUDAHIM (42) P Hobbs 19yo 9st 6lb	06-1	66-1	50-1	66-1	66
1-2322 ANOTHER EXCUSE (65) E O'Sulvan (46) 11yo 8sl 106	50-1	100-1	66-1	100-1	100
18422 BLUE CHARM (28) (C) Mrs S Brackume Byo Bst 12h	100-1	100-1	40-1	100-1	50
55/4-4 CAMPLOT KNOCHT (28) N Twiston-Davies 13yo 8st 6tb		100-1	_	100-1	100
65342 DRIUMO'S BRICOK (25) K Balley Dyo But 4h	_	100-1		66-1	
4420B FRAZER ISLAND (25) R Powe Toyo But 11b	50-1		86-1	100-1	_
LHISSS -PHILIP'S WOODY (M) N Handarson Tiyo Set 6th		100-1	66-1	186-1	
220002 TELL THE MPPER (25) M Pipe Syo 7st (2b)	50-1		33-1		
	_				_
4P-90 STRONG CHARMAN (25) P Nicholis Byo 8st 9th	66-1		40-1		50
12P34 FEELS LIKE GOLD (SIS) (BF) N Richards 11 yo 7st 12fb	100 1	66-1	86-1	66-1	150
4 PRO4 CHOISTY (35) H Haynes 9yo 7st 12to		200-1		200-1	100
2P-Nt FMERALD STATEMENT (40) D Greenell Syo 8xt 6th	66-1	150-1	_=	200-1	_
2004PG MESRY PEOPLE (NO.) Cuesty (III) thyo 8st 7to	100-1	100-1	=	200-1	100
212-36 MISS DISKIN (38) A Buckter toyo 8st 16	100-1	200-1	_=	150-1	150-
13-P40 CASTLE COM (29) J H Johnson 7yo 7st 19b	100-1	150-1	_=	100-1	250-
08000 DAMAS (FT) (29) 8 McCein Byo Bot	200-1	200-1		250-1	250-
PS-2PE DECYBORG (FR) (46) M Ppe B yo 7st 1965	100-1	200-1	_	150-1	250-
PAPOS ST MELLION FAIRWAY (82) M Pipo 10yo 75t 10to	100-1	66-1	66-1	66-1	250-
31004 WATERLOO KING (55) J Walsh (ki) 12yo 7st 12to	150-1	150-1		150-1	20-
0-3P43 BACK BAB (25) D McCain 11yo 7sl 10b	250-1	150-1		200-1	500-
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S-6F4 COMMERCIAL ARTIST (21) D McCain 13yo But 11 b	1001	570-1 dbt	dbt	200-1 dbt	100- dt
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4112	AUCTION HOUSE 8 His 3yo 9st	74-1	16-1	10-1	14-1	10-1
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12-	ETIZAAZ J Duniop Byo 9st	8-1	8-1	8-1	10-1	9-1
11.	MOTHER OF PEARL, P Chapple-Hyara 3yo 9st	14-1	10-1	12-1	12-1	14-1
5112-	CALANDO 6 Loder 3yo 9st	10-1	14-1	12-1	12-1	16-1
11-	SAYTARRA 6 Loder 3/o Ret	74-1	16-1	12-1	16-1	10-1
1251-	SUNSPANGLED A P (Finish (irl) 3yo Sat	16-1	10-1	12-1	8-1	10-1
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2- KOLLER DISTINCT H Cock 3yo 9st

103-2 STRAVINSKY A P O'Brien (it) 3yo 8st

212- IMPERIAL BEAUTY P Makes 3yo 9st

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121	COMMANDER COLLINS P Chapple-Hyam 3yo 9st	8-1	18-1	10-1	9-1	8-1			
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1-	BALLET MASTER H Cool 3yo 9st	25-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	25-1			
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# Duval's path to top paved with gold

Andy Farrell on the man who has now officially ended Tiger Woods' 41-week reign as the world's No 1 golfer

SO ENDS three months of controversy and arguments over the authenticity of the golf's world rankings. Yesterday came confirmation of what many people have been saying all year, namely that David Duval is the best player in the world. The 27-year-old American ended Tiger Woods' 41-week stay in the No 1 spot. There could have been no more fitting way for Duval to initiate the switch than by winning the Players' Championship, his local tournament, on Sunday evening.

The victory was Duval's 10th in the past 18 months and his third of the season. The 2560,000 first prize sent him back to the top of the US money list and it came on the same day that his father, Bob, won his maiden tournament on the Seniors Tour. A resident of nearby Jacksonville Beach, Duval received a hero's welcome on the 18th green.

closing round of 73, a total of three under and a two-stroke. At the TPC of Sawgrass, Duval win over the only other man to . break par on the Stadium Course for four rounds, Scott Gump. Having twice holed from off the green during his round, it was a magnificent tee shot to six feet on the island green of tion for blowing out of the final the 17th hole, and the subsequent hirdie putt, that sealed an emotional victory for the usually placed Duval.

gallery all the way round. Some of the noise was deafening people were going nuts. This is a wonderful day," Duval said. "This has been a wonderful year, and it is only March. I grew up sitting behind the practice range at this tournament and there are only a couple of others I would rather win. I'm not going to say I always dreamed of winning here hecause I knew it would be a very. very difficult thing to do."

Only a major title - be was second to Mark O'Meara at the Masters last year - remains absent from Duval' While he describes the Players as a "near-major", it is a tour nament that tends to be woo by players who are, or who later become, major champions. The immediate past eight winners all

#### DUVAL STANDARDS

DAVID ROBERT DUVAL Age: 27. Borns: Jacksonville, Florida; son of US Senior Tour pro, Bob Duval.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS 1991: Semi-finalist, British Am-1991: Member of US Walke

1997: First U5 Tour victory a Michelob championship. 1998: No 1 on US money list with a record \$2,591,031 (£1.63m). 1998: US Masters runner-up. 1998: Us wasters runter-up.
1999: Becomes world No 1 after winning Tournament Players'
Championship, Sawgrass. The victory is his 10th in the last 18
months and his third of 1999: at
the same time he becomes the
13th player in US Tour history to
amass over S8m in total career

fall into that category and there is no reason to believe the trend

Earlier this year, Duval won the Boh Hope Classic in the His up-and-down from the most dramatic way imaginable, back of the green gave him a .equalling the lowest score on the Tour of 59 in the final round. gritted out a win against an extremely strong field and on a de-

His 10 wins have come in his last 33 events and it is hard to believe that he once had a reputaday. His father could not have sought advice from a better source when he spoke to Duval Jnr on Saturday, "I told him, I felt the vibes from the voull think about winning all day and there is nothing you can do

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1 D Duval	12.7
1 D Duval	12.6
3 D Love III	10.3
4 M O'Meara	
5 E Els (SA)	9.1
6 L Westwood (GB)	8.8
7 V Singh (Fiji)	8.8
8 N Price (Zim)	
9 C Montgomerie (GB)	8.2
10 F Couples	7.4
11 J Furyk	
12 J Leonard	
13 M Osaki (Japan)	6.8
14 P Mickelson	
15 J Maggert	5.9
16 D Clarke (Ge)	5.6
17 P 5tewart	5.6

1a J Pamevik (5we) ..

19 5 Elkington (Aus) ......

about it. Don't try and block it out, just try and embrace it."

Thinking about being the world No 1 was not a consider ation for Duval, who earlier in the week voiced mild criticisms of the way the rankings work. "It is nice to be ranked No 1," Duval said, "but it is not a concern of mine. I have been playing well for a while and won a lot of tournaments. When I won my ninth [tournament] and didn't get to No 1, I told myself to forget about it and just play golf. But I did set the goal of reaching double-digit wins before the end of the season and I achieved that today."

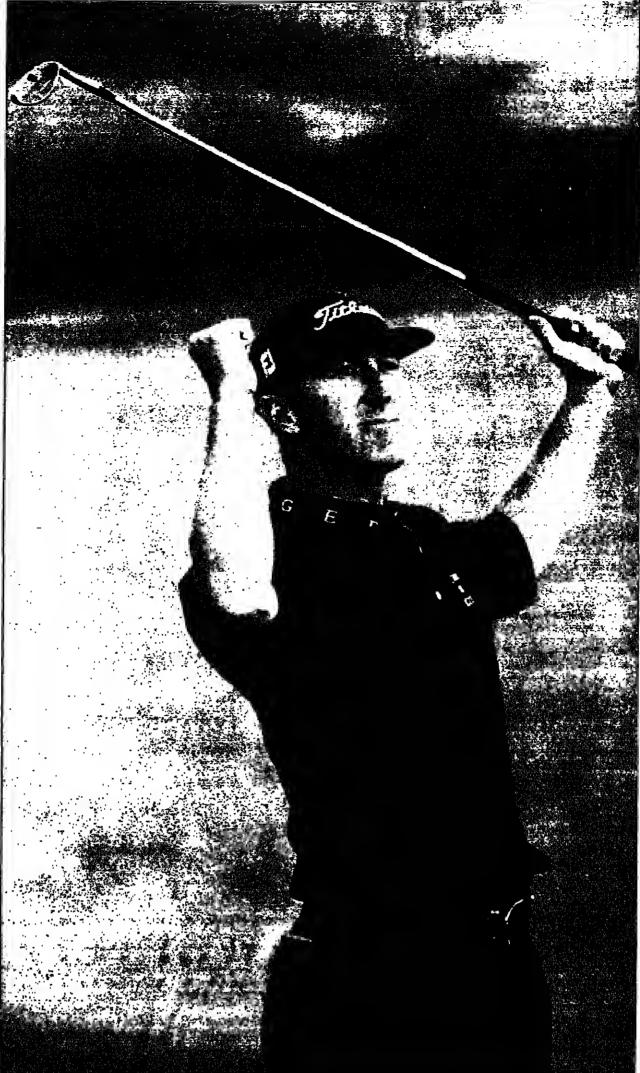
Woods might have ching onto his crown had he parred the last to finish tied for sixth place. Duval, characteristically, was not about to write off the Tiger era. "I was the best player this week," was his summary.

One look at the severe set-up of the course made Duval feel comfortable, and Lee Westwood took the same approach. The 25year-old from Worksop, who has won 11 times worldwide in the time Duval has won his 10, was one of those tied for sixth. five behind the winner, after a 73.

While Colin Montgomerie slumped to a closing 79 for the second Sunday running, Westwood battled away in encouraging fashion, progressing up the leaderboard thanks to a level-par back nine. "It's coming back to where I was," he said. "I was rusty at the beginning of the week hut I am much more confident now. I need to play a lot, and I have not done that this year, but I also needed the break over the winter."

This time last year, Westwood finished fifth at Sawgrass and then went on to win in New Orleans the following week, hut then had a poor Masters. His top-10 finish here meant he was eligible to play in the Bell-South Classic in Atlanta this week, hut Westwood will stick to his plans of taking a working holiday in the Bahamas before arriving early at Augusta.

made," Westwood said of the chance to tee up again this week. "I will play a couple of rounds but otherwise switch off. I feel I can contend in majors



David Duval holds his arms aloft after the victory at Sawgrass which confirmed him as the new world No 1 AP | switch.

## England have to settle for draw

BY BILL COLWILL

England

A HOTLY-DISPUTED penalty. corner award two minutes from time led to Santiago Capurro equalising for Argentina as England drew 2-2 in the second game of their tour in Buenos Aires on Sunday.

England, showing much improved form from what they displayed in their 4-1 draw last Thursday, started strongly with the substitute Calum Glies putting them ahead two minutes before the interval at a penalty corner he had sarned

With Danny Hall forcing his way along the by line to score a second goal for England 20 minutes into the second half, an England victory looked proba-

But within a minute, Argentina had pulled a goal back through their captain Carlos Retegui to lead to a tense finish in which England conceded that into equaliser.

England's coach, Barry Dancer, gave first caps to Canterbury's goalkeeper Simon Triggs and Bournville's medical student. Tom Bertram.

Dancer commented after the game: "It is pleasing to see the two new players play so well today. This augurs well for generating greater depth in our National squad.

The challenge shead is to maintain progress in the gruelling programme ahead of five games over the next seven

England play South Africa this evening.

Umphres: J C O Petillo (Arg) & C Hough (Eng)

In Wales, Swansea have won the Women's Midland Bank Welsh League while their men have appealed against the forfeiture of their game against Weston-super-Mare in the West of England and South Wales Premier Division, Weston understood that the match had at their ground, while Swansea waited in Wales. Swansea forfeited the match because the League maintained that they had been informed of the

# Serbian players fall foul of Uefa Scots to test

YUGOSLAVIA

SASA CURCIC. Crystal Palace's Serbian midfielder, has fallen foul of European football's ruling body after protesting at the weekend against Nato's bombing campaign in Yugo-Curcic walked on to the Sel-

hurst Park pitch before Sunday's Nationwide League First Division game against Bradford City waving a placard which read: "Stop Nato homhing." Yesterday, in response to protests by Curcic and other Yugoslav players elsewhere in Europe, a Uefa spokesman said: "Although recognising the gravity of the situation, our official stance is quite clear: politics should not be mixed with

"While sympathising with the players' anxiety and desire to do something. Uefa feels that the players have certain obligations to their clubs and to the game of football. This is the clear standpoint which will be conveyed to players, clubs and to the Yugoslav national association itself." The Yugoslav FA had urged Serb expatriates footballers had the weekend off.



Nato member countries. The former Aston Villa stri-

not to play for clubs based in

ker Savo Milosevic, now with Real Zaragoza, was part of a demonstration hy Yugoslav players based in Spain outside the American embassy in Madrid. Real Madrid's Predrag Minatovic and the Celta Vigo defender Goran Diorovic were also part of the same protest. Mijatovic has apparently ap-

pointed himself spokesman for the Yugoslav players in Spain. The international striker said: "Footballers are not going to play while our families cannot come out of their cellars."

While Spain's First Division

there was a full Second Division programme. Fifteen Yugoslav players were faced with making the choice of whether to play or not. Four chose to withdraw their labour, four were either dropped or made substitute while the other seven men played - although some wore

hlack armbands. The former Kilmarnock goalkeeper Dragoje Lekovic refused to play for his Spanish club, Malaga, but his compatriot Dejan Markovic turned out for Osasuna. "I wanted to play to show that the Yugoslavs are not assassins," he said. "I'm not in agreement with those that aren't playing. That way, we're not proving anything."

In France, the Metz striker Vladan Lukic is heading for home. "What they're doing to my country is a scandal. So I'm off," he said. "It's my duty to leave because my country is under attack. I don't know how

I'll get there but I'll manage." The Juventus defender Zoran Mirkovic returned to Italy from Belgrade on Saturday after the postponement of Yugoslavia's Euro 2000 qualifier against Croatia and said: "I



training for tomorrow's match against Finland Reuters

saw my town burning last night. in front of everyone's eyes." It is shameful for the whole of

Despite the disruption the Europe. They are killing people conflict is causing to the European Championship fixture Elliott injury schedule, Uefa has no plans to exclude Yugoslavia.

"We are not thinking of playing without any of the [Balkan] countries," Guido Tognoni, a Uefa spokesman, said yesterday. "But we all agree that, for the moment, football has to step back."

#### SOUTH KOREA

BRAZIL'S NATIONAL squad arrived in Japan yesterday still stunned by Sunday's shock 1-0 defeat to South Korea.

Brazil's coach, Wanderley Luxemburgo, who included six newcomers for the trip to Asia in his huild-up to the Copa America in June and next year's Sydney Olympics, said: They're still not used to each other so they didn't play as a unit. South Korea kept coming at us for the full 90 minutes -I'll have to sit down and analyse what went wrong.

Kim Do-hoon's last-minute goal for South Korea condemned Brazil to their first defeat under Luxemburgo, whose team take on Japan

#### added: "Matt will have to prove himself 100 per cent fit for me to pick him. I couldn't consider letting him start otherwise." Another of the Anglo-Scots, the Celtic goalkeeper Jonathan Gould, has been given compassionate leave from their coastal headquarters at Troon after complications with his wife's preg-

nancy. Gould was expected to

which the most energetic squad

activity was kicking their heels

following the postponement of

Bosnia's visit, Scotland's prepa-

rations for tomorrow's Euro-

pean Championship Group Nine

summit meeting with the Czech Republic in Glasgow have been

mdermined by an injury scare.

Leicester defender who was in

line to replace long-term casualty

Colin Hendry at Celtic Park, re-

ported a back strain which Craig

Brown described as a "major

worry". The Scotland manager

Matt Elliott, the London-born

understudy Neil Sullivan, but Brown will have to re-examine his options unless he returns today. While Brown is aware of Scotland's reputation for having some players with more call-offs than caps, he views it as a British rather than a Scottish problem. Reflecting on his trip to Teplice on Saturday to watch the Czechs' 2-0 defeat of Lithua-

nia, he claimed he could have years in the joh. Gill Bridge, named their starting XI before appointed as managing direche arrived, as well as those of most teams involved in Championship qualifiers that day. "I might have struggled to predict the British sides, though," said Brown. "The way

EVEN AFTER a weekend in By PHIL SHAW

petitive compared with the more technical game in somewhere like France. Those countries don't have players missing constantly the way we do. The only Czech who has been out lately is Pavel Nedved, and he played against Lithuania

had used a Scottish sports psychologist, Watt Nicol, to put England's players in the right frame of mind ahead of their win over Poland were received with indifference bordering on scepticism in the Scotland camp. Nicol, the self-styled "guru of personal reinvention", comes from Brown's adopted county, Ayrshire, but there will be no call for him to do his patriotic duty. Although his predecessor.

Andy Roxburgh, used a psy-chologist called Jack Black, Brown is of the opinion that it is the manager's job to provide motivation for those players who need it. Some already work with psychologists at their clubs and he was concerned that they might be confused by being exposed to different methods.

argued, was that international players must already possess a certain amount of will power to achieve and sustain such status. "I think England would have won 3-1 anyway because of their own qualities, those of their manager and the nature of the opposi tion," Brown said.

we play our football in the English and Scottish Premiership is very physical, and fiercely com-

#### Houllier sends scouts to assess Georgatos er said: "As with any player we Martin Taylor has also agreed will support him if he needs help, a new five-year contract. THE LIVERPOOL manager BY ALAN NIXON a Football League cluh resigned yesterday after five

Gérard Houllier is pursuing the Greek international Grigorios Georgatos as a replacement for Steve McManaman

Houllier sent his assistant. Phil Thompson, and chief scout Ron Yeats to watch the Olympiakos player on international duty against Norway at the weekend. Georgatos can operate as a winger, a full-back

or a wing-back and is priced at around £3.5m because of interest in Italy. The 26-year-old was one of the key figures in his club's run to the quarter-finals of the Champions' League, and Juventus were showing an interest before Marcello Lippi resigned as coach.

Georgatos's price tag is not

Johnson, the England Under-21 midfielder who is another Anfield target. Johnson is joining Liverpool for training before the end of the season.

John Gregory has told Paul Merson that Aston Villa will do all they can to help him with his personal problems as long as the England player remains com- Ewood Park until the summer mitted to the club. The manag- of 2004. The young defender

However, he needs to support us on the pitch as well."

The England winger Jason Wilcox has committed his longterm future to Blackburn Rovers. Wilcox, a one club man, has signed a new five-year contract which will keep him at

a new five-year contract. Jordi Cruyff is returning to

Manchester United. The Dutchman has been on loan to Celta Vigo since January and feared his United days could be over, but Alex Ferguson has told him he wants to see him back for the start of next season. One of the first women to be

tor at Blackpool in 1994, resigned after Karl Oyston, the son of the jailed former chairman, Owen Oyston, took over as acting chairman earlier this year and after the previous chair - Owen's wife Vicky - took appointed managing director of a hack seat at the club,

itigio e e e Reports that Kevin Keegan

But the bottom line, be

Against the Czechs, who boast a 100 per cent record in the group, Brown's singular talent for reinventing Scotland's lineup in the face of adversity looks

# Greenwood could miss World Cup

WILL GREENWOOD is going through one of his philosophical phases, which is probably just as well given he spends most of his time sitting down and thinking. Sadly, the classiest inside-centre in Europe may soon find himself thinking the unthinkable: namely, that the pelvic injury responsible for keeping him out of all rugby since England's narrow defeat of Italy just over four months ago may pose a threat to his participation in the World Cup. "I would love to be in a position to say when III play

again, but I really don't have the

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT

faintest idea," said Greenwood, who is suffering from osteitis pubis (inflammation of the pelvic bone) a condition that responds only to complete rest. "I thought I was close to playing three weeks ago; I was doing all the track work, 200m sprints and 400m runs, and things looked hopeful. But when I really tried to push it, the discomfort flared up again.

"At the moment, I'm working on a two-week cycle; after a

I take another fortnight off and so on. I'm not in any great pain. I can walk about normally and even run without trouble. But when it comes to the first five per cent and the last five per cent, the injury limits me. I can't get out of the blocks and I can't accelerate to top speed. I haven't a chie when it will

Notwithstanding the startling emergence of Jonny Wilkinson as a Test midfielder of unlimited potential, Greenwood remains the most potent

fortnight's rest, I have a run-out back available to Clive Wood-and see how things are. Then ward, as the coach plots his ward, as the coach plots his course towards the higgest tournament in the history of the game; indeed, Wilkinson would still be on the outside looking in had the Leicester centre not been interrupted in full stride.

But much as Woodward would give his eye teeth to see the two players operating in red rose tandem, with Wilkinson at outside-half, he will not take Greenwood to Australia for this warm-weather World Cup training camp unless he produces a clean bill of

"My latest scan picked up some bot spots, so the condition is still active," Greenwood said yesterday. "But there's no point my getting stressed about it. The injury will not heal any more quickly if I get angry, so I might as well accept that it's happened and follow the best

mediate future, it's all in God's, um, groin, so to speak." The uncertainty over Greenwood means Woodward will almost certainly resist what must be a growing temptation to fall in line with public opinion and hand Wilkinson the stand-off

advice available. As for my im-

role. According to Rob Andrew, who knows more about life at No 10 than any Englishman alive and also understands Wilkinson better than Wilkinson himself, the 19-year-old goalkicking phenomenon should be spared the play-making role until has paid a few more dues

at Premiership level.
"It's a really difficult call and one I wouldn't like to make. but there is a real danger of excessive public expectation here," said Andrew, who plays alongside Wilkinson at Newcastle and, in his role as direc-

youngster's guiding light.
"There is a clamour for him to be given the No 10 shirt and the moment he gets it, everyone will expect superman to turn up. You have to be a bit careful with Jonny. After all, he's played virtually no senior rugby at outside-half."

If Greenwood's lack of progress is giving Woodward cause for concern, at least the Irish know exactly where they stand with Eric Miller. The former Leicester No 8, who now plays his rugby for the Dublinbased Terenure College outfit. tor of rugby, is effectively the needs surgery on the ankle

injury he suffered during his country's Five Nations defeat in Scotland 10 days ago and will miss this summer's two-Test tour of Australia - a tough trip made all the harder by the likely return to the Wallaby side of one of the world's outstanding full-backs, Matthew Burke, after a career-threatening shoulder dislocation.

Meanwhile, a Special Gen-eral Meeting of the Rugby Foot-ball Union has been called for 6 June. The meeting will consider the Reform Group's proposed vote of no confidence in the union's management board.

# Draw 'has helped me' says Lewis

HE MIGHT not have thought it when the decision was announced, but Lennox Lewis now believes his controversial draw with Evander Holyfield

has given his career a boost. With cries of "fix" still resounding, the World Boxing Council world beavyweight champion has hit back on an ITV programme, An Audience With Lennox Lewis, due for transmission on Saturday.

"To be honest the draw has definitely helped me," Lewls said. "People now notice me in the world of boxing. I definitew didn't lose out in that fight. Next time I'll take the decisionmaking out of the judges' hands and knock Holyfield out."

Lewis also called for punch statistics to be considered in fight scoring. Against Holyfield the British heavyweight landed two and a half times more punches than his opponent and feels there should be a radical shake-up in the judging system.

Speaking on the programme, hosted by Ian Wright, Lewis heard the controversial judge Eugenia Williams defend her scoring in favour of Holyfield.

"Judges have the best seat in were scored from long range, so it sounds like excuses to me," Lewis said. "They should get hold of the punch stats and see w many were thrown and how many landed. Any tech-

nology would help at ringside." Williams claimed press photographers impeded her view of the fight, leading to calls that judges should score from television screens. But Lewis believes that may make their task even more difficult, saying, "I don't think judges need televisions because they can see with the naked eye and from where they are they should get the perfect view."

Lewis's war of words with Holyfield still shows no signs of abating and the British fighter American opponent's mistaken

felled in the third round. I thought it was a liberty to say

anyway?" Lewis also defended himself against accusations that he lacked the killer instinct to finish off his opponent during the

Johnny Nelson profited from urday night, and yesterday paid than himself.

Nelson landed the World Boxing Organisation cruiser-weight title in Derby and is now the house and most of my points .. on terms - in trophies if not financially - with his former stable mate Naseem Hamed.

in which referee Paul Thomas was, by a wide opinion, premature in his decision, now puts him on equal footing with Hamed as a WBO champion.

Brendan Ingle's system. When I succeed it shows that the system succeeds, Brendan's system. I had no amateur

BY TONY DAVIDSON

prophesy that he would be

"He's not a one-punch artist. he could knock me out," Lewis said. "That was never going to happen and it just made me more careful in the third round. Who has Holyfield ever knocked out in the early rounds

much-debated fifth round.

"I'm closer to the action than anyone else," he said. "I hit him with a good punch, and he lost his balance and was against the ropes. No fighter has ever knocked out Holyfield and there were still seven rounds to go."

a contyroversial verdict on sattribute to the system rather

"I entered the gym all those years ago with nothing, no natural ability, no raw talent, nothing. No promise at all," said Nelson. "But I'm a product of

grounding, 14 fights three wins, what kind of career is that? So when I foul up in public I've done it for my gym, although says he is still seething with his now I've secured the future for myself, my wife and my kids."



The Cambridge University cox, Vian Sharif, and her crew at yesterday's weigh-in for Saturday's Boat Race

SPORTING DIGEST

# Oxford will rely on depth

His fifth-round stoppage of turned to the Tideway in Manchester's Carl Thompson, London yesterday for the last BY HUGH MATHESON week of preparation for their four-and-a-half-mile test on Sat-

> The Quaich, supplied by the sponsors Aberdeen Asset Management, was displayed to the two crews as a teaser at their weigh-in, when Oxford proved marginally the heavier and Cambridge marginally the taller Age matters, too, and Oxford will be the older with the addition of the Swedish Olympic sculler Henrik Nilsson, 30 last month.

> Christmas when it was clear that, while Oxford had greater depth, the top group at Cambridge would be formidable. There are two Americans on

each team and Neil O'Donnell.

the Dark Blue coxswain who steered the reserves, Isis, to victory last year. In addition there is a Canadian in each crew -Brad Crombie, the Cambridge president, and Morgan Crooks, rowing at No 6 for Oxford. Two Germans stroke the crews, Colin von Ettingshausen for Oxford and Tim Wooge for the Light Blues. Other than that, this is a British, and an undergrad-The squads emerged before uate, event. Of the 18 there are seven Britons rowing and one cox [Vian Sharif of Cambridge] and two rowers are freshmen Tom Stallard of Cambridge and

Dan Snow opposite him.

term 10 days ago, Cambridge fortable at 6st 10 lb. trounced an Austrian crew from Gmunden, who last weektance compared with who is end, with a slightly different better at being able to find the line-up, finished sixth in Britain

line in the river where the curat the Tideway Head of the rent flows fastest, then holding River race. On the same day it against the challenges of the other. Rowing is meant to be a Oxford raced Queen's Tower, which is the national eight, at non-contact sport but in releast until the Boat Race oarscent years coxes on both sides men are released. Oxford have shown a willingness to mix it with the blades overlapping counted it a victory both in actual speed shown and also in and clashing. character under pressure. The umpire and race or-Queen's Tower then won the Head. It is possible to argue that the Boat Race crews are

ganisers gave a strong lecture yesterday to emphasise how willing the umpire Mark Evans -a Canadian and Olympic gold medallist while rowing for Oxford in 1984 - is to exercise his final sanction of disqualification, in spite of the havoc that

schedules and the Question of But weight is of little impor- Sport formbook.

SpOrt Intridiook.

BOAT INACE WEIGH-IN (GB unless scatcaf): Oxford University: Row C P A Humphreys (president), Oriel College age 22, height 6rt 31/aln, weight 13st 1.5lft; Mo 2 L H K Nilsson (Swe) Hertford College, 30 6ft 31/aln, 16st 25t; No 3 D R Snow, Ballol Coll. 20, 6ft 6in, 15st 12ft; No 4 7 H Ayer (US), Wotrester College, 24, 6ft 5in, 16st 05t; No 5 M A Croy (US), Keble College, 23, 6ft 5in, 16st 10ft; No 6 M A L Crooks (Can) 5x Arme's College, 22, 6ft 2in, 14st 4ltr; No 7 A J R Lindsay, Brasenose Coll, 22, 6ft 1in, 14st 4ltr; Scroke C R D Von Euringshausen (Ger) Keble College, 27, 6ft 4,05in, 15st 2,05it; Can N J O'Donneld (US) Keble College, 23, 5ft 9in, 7st 13,05ib, Cambridge University: Bown V Vallace, Ne

(US) Keble College, 23, 5ft 9ln, 7st 13,05lb, Cambridge University: Boar J Vitalizoc, Jesus College, 22, 6ft 7ln, 15st 21p; No 2 T A Stalland, Jesus College, 20, 6ft 334h, 13st 8,5lb; No 3 ft 8 Cromble (president, Carr) Peserhouse College, 20, 6ft 6h, 14st 12lb; No 4 A J West (US), Calus College, 22, 6ft 9ln, 15st 2,5lb; No 5 0 O M Elis (US) Thirly Coll. 23, 6ft 5ln, 14st 4lb; No 6 K M West, Christ's College, 21, 6ft 8h, 14st 13lb; No 7 G D C R Smith, 5s Edmund's College, 23, 6ft 334h, 14st 21.5 ft; Surator 7 Whoge (Ger) Magdalen College, 26, 6ft 734h, 15st 20; Cost V Sharif, Clare College, 19, 5ft, 6st 101-zin,

Sampras, overtaken by Moya on 15 March, now has 3,525 ranking points – nine more than Moya.

## Bears go back to **Brighton**

BASKETBALL

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

MANCHESTER GIANTS and Sheffield Sharks are focusing on their winner-takes-all Budweiser League title decider at the MEN Arena on Friday, hut the Worthing Bears have already turned their sights to next season.

The League's bottom team hope to leave their abysmal playing record behind by uprooting from Worthing along the south coast to the 3,600-seat Brighton Centre, with its sprung wooden floor and Olympic-standard basketball rings.

As a National League club, the Bears' history began in Brighton and their director, Romek Kriwald, says the move back there reflects the club's determination to join the League's élite. "The stakes have been raised and the Bears have to rise to the challenge," he said.

The Sharks had only to win at Chester on Sunday to become League champions, but an 84-81 defeat by the Jets has handed Manchester the chance to claim the title in Friday's crucial fixture.

## **Devils** in play-offs

CARDIFF DEVILS claimed the final Sekonda Superleague play-off semi-final berth with an emphatic 6-2 victory over Newcastle Riverkings.
With a place in the champ-

ionship finals in Manchester up for grabs for both teams, the Welsh side took the tie in sparkling fashion ou Sunday, booking a semi-final date with the champions. Mauchester Storm, next Saturday.

The deposed champions Ayr Scottish Eagles rounded off a sorry season by crushing Nottingham Panthers 6-2 at the Centrum Arena.

#### BADMINTON

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Elliot Stuart, the England coach, has-decided to quit because of the time commitment. Stuart, whose six-month contract ends this week, had been expected to become Eng-land's world class performance di-rector from April.

BASKETBALL Worthing Bears are to move to Brighton in September. Owners of the new outfit, which will be called the Brighton Bears, alm to improve the team's fortunes with better fa-ciliries and relevision exposure, bascilities and relevision exposure, bas-ing the team at the 3,600-seat Brighton Centre.

MEM: Toronto 91 Chicago 78; Milwoulee 94 Minnesota 85; LA Lakers 99 New York 91; Charlotte 105 Cleveland 84; Portland 88 Pitoenik 86; Houston 107 Sacramento 93; Indiana 101 Boston 93; Detroit 104 Seattle 87; Orlando 84 Mi

BOWLS ENALLS SPRING WATERLOO disposil Second round: L Roughley rington) by R Jones (Southport) 21-7: nine (Sheffield) by A Lamb (Manches) bi A 21-16; M Chambertoin (Manches) bi A

Carl Thompson, who lost his World Boxing Organisation cruiserweight

#### TODAY'S NUMBER 300

The number of extra seats to be added to the 9.100-capacity National Indoor Arena in Birmingham for this weekend's Davis

Cup tennis tie.

Saturday, is now set to lose a per-centage of his purse. Thompson, due to receive in the region of £160,000, faces the pay cut as a result of his comermen entering the ring wearing Naseem Hamed T-shirts.

EQUESTRIANISM Geoff Billington achieved the only double clear round of the UBS Grand Prix in Zurich to win the £30,000 first prize on Virtual Village

E30,000 first prize on Virtual Village It's Otto.

L'S Otto.

SHOME UBS Grand Print 1 Virtual Village It's Otto (6 Billington, GB) clear, 45.61 sec. 2 Rochet M (A Ledermann, Frj 4 Raulis, 45.11; 3 Remus Equo (A-M Bauer, Aut) 8 faults, 42.32.

Other GBT 21 Virtual Village Ashley (M Whitaker) 7.25 faults in 1st round; 31 Virtual Village Heyman (J Whitaker) 12 faults in 1st round.

Mike Flynn, the Stockport captain, has settled his differences with the

has settled his differences with the First Division club and has signed un-til 2003. Flynn looked set to leave Edgeley Park before the transfer deadline after being put on the trans-fer list at his own request. FA UNBERO TROPHY Semi-thal drawn kingsonian v Cheteraham Rown; St Albans City v Fortest Green Rovers. (First legs to be played Sounday 17 April; UNTERPLATIONAL FRIENDELY (Part of Span, Frieldad): Thridad and Tobago 2 (Nahaid 22. John 55) Jamaics 0.

Reds N Faldo (GB). US PGA TOUR Leading mostly witness; (US maless stated): 1 D Dunal \$2,148,300 (E1.413,000): 2 J Maggert \$1,320,410; 3 7 Woods \$1,262,955; 4 P Stewart \$380,800; 5 V Singh (FB) \$844,635; 6 Dads Love II \$813,510; 7 5 Patt \$806,303; B J Huston \$773,910; 8 E Els (SA) \$753,376; 10 J Leonard \$749,487.

72 69 76 79, 287 B Foxon 72 75 79 71;
6 Getterger 74 71 78 74; C DiMarco 74 72
76 75; J Stuman 70 72 79 76; J Maggert
73 71 76 77, 296 O Forsman 76 70 78 74;
J M Olazobal (Sp) 78 70 76 74; D Barron
72 73 77 76; R Darwon 74 72 76 76; J Gallagher 71 73 77 76; R Darwon 74 72 76 76; J Gallagher 71 73 77 77; D Front; GAJ 74 72 74
78, 299 JD Blake 77 71 79 72; J Cook 78
63 78 74; B Chesman 73 74 73 79; S Pace
74 74 72 79, 300 8 Priesd 74 69 67 70;
B Andrade 73 74 B1 72; G Kraft 71 74 82
73; 7 Wattson 75 71 79 75; C Sadler 72
70 80 76; R Hughes (Aus) 70 74 78 78; B
Esses 69 74 80 78, 301 C Parry (Aus) 75
73 73 80, 302 T Byrum 76 72 80 74, 304
C Pawin 74 74 82 74; D Carter 77 77 79
76 80; F Cochran 76 70 79 79; J Carter 77 77
76 80; F Foxohion (NZ) 72 71 80 31, 205 J
Durant 74 74 78 79, 306 T Nier 76 77 79
79; F Alfem (SA) 74 67 63 82. Disquallfleat: N Faido (GB).
US FOA TOUR Leading most cylindars

FOOTBALL

(7.30 unless stated) EUROPEAN UNDER-21

GROUP THREE

ova v Northern treland (4.0)

LPGA MARESCO DENIAM SMORE TOAR-NAMENT (Palm Springs, California) Leading Basi-toand scores (US unless stated): 269 D Pepper 70 66 67 66. 273 M Mallon 66 69 71 69. 280 K Webb (Aus)

Molves v Crewe (7.45) .....

LINDER-16 INTERNATIONAL

ENDSLEIGH CHALLENGE TROPHY Morecambe v Doncaster (7.45) ...

Morecambe v Doncaster (7.45)
SCOTTISH LEAGUE FREST DIVISION
Clydebank v Apr.
SERE-PROFESSIONAL
BRITERHATIONAL
Necherlands v England
(or FC Genemation)
RYMAN LEAGUE Practice Division: Boreham Wood v Dagenham & Reddridge (7.45):
Chesham v St. Alberts; Dolvich Familie v Hampton; Griveband v Belstop's Scottford,
Heybridge v Headon, Franc Bildeberg Grays
v Christo City, Hilotila v States; Romford v
Wernbley; Whyteleafe v Unbridge, Swoond

Epsom & Ewell v Leves; Ford Urd v WarraHornchurch v Corindhan-Casuels.

IMBEODY LEAGUR Premier Division: Cowyn Buy v Leigh Rivit; Scalybridge v Altrincham; Merdegy v Whitby (7.45). First
Divisions Eastwood River v Lincoln Utot Radeffe Borough v Burscough; Scocksofridge PS
v Partley; Traifford v Matiock; Whitely Boy v
Bradford Park Avenue; Wiccon Abbon v
Orbyfsden: Lasges Cap Hornth-round raplays Guissley v Accrington Stanley.

DR MARTHIS LEAGUR Pressier Divisions
Bronsgrove v Crawley (7.45; Ombridge City
v Burton Abbon Hastings v Bach (7.45); Immorth v Granthart, Waymouth v Dorchester
(7.45). Middand Obtisions: Evestiam Utot v
Stepsished Dynamics Southfridge V Scafford
Rangers, Southern Divisions Ashford v Danford; Bashing v Fleet, Rewport (10M) v Margatz, Torbridge v Erith & Belvedert; Witney
v Settingbourne.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE FIRS DIMMON Marke V BEING. NAME TOWN. HORTHERN COUNTES EAST LEAGUE Premier Dhristont Button v Stanjey MW, Excleshill v Denaby, Liversenge v Thickley, Ponternat Collectes v Brigg. Presidents Cap final second legs Gartorth v North Fer-rity Utd.

WINSTONLEAD RENT LEAGUE Pre-tales Divisions Greenwich Borough v Rams-gate; Hene Bay v Thamesmead, Sheppey v Beckenham, v Bedenfam,
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE
Pressier Division: Blackstone v Ford
Sports, Boston Kown v Bades, Backstone
Town v Desborough; St Neons v Storfold,
JENSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Newbury v
Robos: Carlecturar v Gosport Barough;
Wimborne v East Cowes Vics. Fiete semi-ficals: Hampstead & West minster v Bournemouth; Yeddington Deside Rambiers. (Ties to be played on Sor-urday 24 April of National Scadium, All-ton Reynes). REGIONAL LEAGUES Play-offs (Million Regions Matternal Stanform, 17-18 April; one team to qualify for INE. Second Di-vision): Severoals, Kenering, Liverpool Sefton, Rover Cowiey, Colvail.

the two fastest eights in the

country and close to each other.

depends on the two coxes.

O'Donnell looks wasted at

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S EHA CUP Send-film) draw: Slough v Cheimstord Highway, Fyffes Leicester v Olton Terraquest, Momen's EHA

When it is this close much

RUGBY UNION IRE-FIRA MORED RINGON RUGGEY
CHAMPHONESHEP First Dhabson: Scotland
37 Uruguay 12. Second Dhysicor: Russia
10 Urarian 3; Spoin 13 Germany 7. Third
Civision: Tahran 49 Luvernbourg 7; Morocoo
25 Andorra 3, Nestrelands 42 Crostia 0;
Coto D'Noire 46 Brazil 5, Fenerali Dhysiciaes
Israel 21 Switzerland 3; Bulgaria 9 Bosnia
5; Sweden 24 Stovenia 6; Hangary 0 Yugoslavia 36; Madagescar 12 Tunisia 7.

SCREWPOX DRIECT LEAGUE Premier Di visione Bishop Sutton v Ysovit; Bridgwares v Backwell; Mangossfield v Barnstaple; Odd Down v Westury; Paulson v Caine, Les PMBlips Cup quarter-Buait; Bristol Manor Farm v Chippenham.

MORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE Phrs: Division: Bootle v Vacatali GM Prescot Cables v St Helens; Glossop North Preson Cables v 52 hispan and Al-End v Ramsbogtom.

BYTERLENK EUPPESS BEDLAND AL-LANCE: Kings Norton v Sandwell Borough; Pessal Villa v Stiffnat; Peshore v Oldoury. Rocesser v West Midlands Police; Millenhal v Stourport. Invitation Cap fearth round Bridgmorth v Ondies.

wroman's woodenings.
SeasonOff Redit LeadUR Premier Di-vision, Omagh's Ballymena, First Division: Unisedy Univ Arts. Gena-Cale League Cap quarter-fleate: Genavon v Linkeld; Gen-toran's Distilleny. LEASUR OF WALLES: Barry Town v Car-marthen Town; Counen's Ousy v Conwy; inter Cable-Tid Cardiff v Holywell; Rhayader Town v Abernshorth v Aberysbwyth. PONTINS LEAGUE I'm

Derby v Aaron Villa (7.0): Leeds v Sunder land (7.0), Pleat Bluislos: Grimsby v Burn lay (7.0), Second Division: Bradford Cit v Badopool (2.0); Rothertons v Shaffield Un

BASKETBALL BUDWIESER LEAGUE: Chester lets Derby Storm (7.30).

SKIING Alain Barter, From Aviernore, won a podium place after two fourth po-sitions in the Salom at the Slovenian and Austrian Championships with a second in the sialom at the German Championships at Seefeld,

Austria, on Saturday.

Pete Sampras secured sufficient points at the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne, Florida, to reclaim top spot in the ATP Tour world rank-

SKI HOTLINE

points - nine more than Moya.

ATY TOUR SINGLES PRINTERIOS. 1 P Sampas (US) 3.525pts; 2 C Moya (Sp) 3.516

3: 3 Y Kateinikov (Rus) 3.382; 4 R Krajicek (Neth) 3.119; 5 P Rafter (Aus) 3.115; 6 A Corretin (Sp) 3.1D1; 7 1 Herman (GS) 2.633; 6 T Martin (US) 2.279; 9 M Phillippoissis (Aus) 2.264; 10 K Kucera (Slovek) 2.252; 11 G Rusedsid (GS) 2.126; 12 A Agassi (US) 2.071; 13 M Ross (Chie) 2.035; 14 G Nanhserk (Cros) 1.929; 15 T Enqviet (Swis) 1.998. Other Britishs: 192 C Wilkinson 259; 274 B Coven 141; 285 M MacLagan 125; 356 M Lee 93; 393 L Milligan 79; 404 J Delgato 75; 431 N Goald 69; 458 A Parmar 59, GROBANIK TOUR (Sunderland) Mean's stagles, first round: J Cahes (S Wal) bt E

Wood (Hants) 1-6 6-1 6-1; 5 Harston (Essec) bt G Arber (Kent) 7-6 6-1; J Marray (Yorks) bt P Maggs (Avon) 4-6 6-2 7-6; M Elames (Essec) til G Bamford (Herts) 6-3 6-4; M Trudgeon (Cornwell) bt B Gudzelak (Midds) 6-4 7-5; J Smith (Northams) bt 1 Thomas (Merseyside) 6-3 6-3; C Edmondson (Lancs) bt B McManus (Kent) 6-4 6-4; D Crawfey (Norfold) bt 5 Anney (Derbyshire) 6-4 6-4. Woodnam's stugless, first round: J O'Donoghue (Lancs) bt J D Bellon (Durham & Cleveland) 6-0 6-4; L Collinson (Chon) bt L Rawling (Yorks) 3-6 6-3 6-1; N Truder (Northambertand) bt D Hock (Lancs) 6-3 6-4; H Broome (Lancs) bt M Roach (Warts) 6-3 6-4; A Blow (Leics) bt D Bell (Surrey) 6-6

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DUVAL ON TOP OF THE WORLD P22 SPEED THE WELSH PATRIOT

# Hypnotist, speedway rider, dustman, writer, zoologist, window cleaner, singer ... and the man behind England's 3-1 win over Poland

WHEN KEVIN KEEGAN revealed he had engaged a "motivator" to talk to the England players for Saturday's victory over Poland at Wembley he would only say - with a view to the way Glenn Hoddle was pilloried over his dependence on the faith healer Eileen Drewery and a belief in reincarnation that he was Scottish but not

Mr Mac Motivator was revealed yesterday and, while he may not be weird, he is certainly colourful, having packed more into the 63 years of his one life than most people would manage in several.

Watt Nicoll, discovered by Keegan giving a motivational talk at a business conference in Nottingham four years ago, began his working life as a prospective vet before attempting a variety of occupations varying from professional speedway rider to window cleaner, eventually establishing himself as an entertainer. While primarily a folk singer he also played in a band called the Dirty Pigs and wrote scripts for Norman Wisdom

Along the way he has run the full gamut of human experience, which includes marriage, fatherhood and divorce, wealth, bankruptcy and homelessness.

Nicoll spent an hour in the company of the England players on Thursday evening and handed them a copy of his book, Twisted Knickers and Stolen Scones, at the end of the session after addressing them on motivation techniques.

To judge from a phone call he said he received from Keegan yesterday, he clearly made an impression. Nicoll said: "Kevin said the players were still talking about my meeting with

them at half-time." Nicoll, who was presented with a signed England shirt by Keegan and the squad, picked up his motivational techniques in America and has concentrated on that profession in recent years. Ayrshire born, he describes himself on his



Mr Mac Motivator: Watt Nicoll, who addressed the England players for an hour, was discovered by Kevin Keegan giving a talk at a business conference

MP. "That stands for motivated tional experience. person, guru of personal reinvention," he said.

Watt added: "It's difficult to describe the technique I used with the England squad. I was over there for one evening only and spent an hour in a group

business card as Watt Nicoll environment. It was a motiva- my adult life I set out to be a vet, dustman and TV presenter. I Roundobout and my zoology curred when a play I wrote for

"What I try and do in a situation like this is to try and destroy the team ethic and focus more on the individual I didn't sing, though. I think that might have de-motivated them."

In his book Nicoll writes: "In

Monday's Solution

fessional speedway circuit, apprenticed as a saw doctor and recorded 14 albums as a folk "I have also worked as a

dow cleaner, stage hypnotist,

script writer, playwright, win-

pital, married, divorced, travelled abroad, hecome well off, remarried, become a bankrupt

and slept rough. "My first well paid joh was the Pet Man on Scottish Television's children's programme

studied zoology, rode on the pro- have spent long periods in hos- studies went downhill from a London theatre led to a study

"I became semi-famous as a Connolly, Hamish Imlach and Barbara Dickson.

"But the strangest twist oc-

of hehavioural psychology. "I ended up touring for folk singer in the same era years, performing to capacity that spawned the likes of Billy audiences, techniques that everyone insisted was stage hypnosis but I know it is some-

thing else. The realisation that

these tickets were aimed pri-

marily at the fans who just

wanted to be part of the event

and did not necessarily mind

who they saw play. He was also

keen to point out that, should

British teams fail to qualify, it

will be virtually impossible to

purchase tickets for the finals

Although it will not be known

until the final draw takes place

on 12 December which teams

through official sources.

THE THOUGHTS GURU OF PERSONAL RE-INVENTION'

"Fairness Is a fantasy concept people use to excuse themselves from their inadequacies"

Motivation is activating a mental button which produces maximum focus'

"Attitude is more important than good looks, talent or intelligence

Women are incredible motivators. I believe men are supposed to be motivated by women

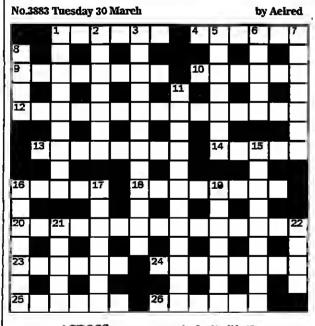
I do not accept that we do well by being sporting losers or fighting to the end. Give me the opportunity and I guarantee Scottish-born people can win gold on the sports field. world cups in team events 🚺 and accolades in any other field of human endeavour."

we can be anything we want to be has been an inspiring and exciting revelation for me, "My passion is in helping eople fulfil their potential and

it is very rewarding." England's performance on Saturday would tend to suggest that Paul Scholes listened more intently than Steve McManaman but, like Hoddle's use of Drewery, this is clearly something from which some people will benefit more than others. The use of motivators - or. more often, trained sports psychologists - is widespread in professional sport, particularly in the United States, but also in the UK, with the England cricket team particularly keen on the

Many sportsmen do seem to benefit. However, the danger comes if team selection is perceived to be influenced by the "outsider" as was believed to be Hoddle's case by some people

#### THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD



- 1 Noteworthy trace aluminium (6) Get away from Spain's
- Smarten up star to feature in network (8)
- 10 Shouting for credit with 1 yen to mix gin (6)
  12 Dead silent? (5,2,3,5) 13 Become sore with poor clue to criticise (8) 14 Lout turned over grass
- circles (5) 16 Second vessel becomes a drain (5)
- 18 Climber would not be out of puff with this (8) 20 A sight better after seeing this medical oractitioner? (15)
- 23 Inflate and explode (4,2) 7 24 Strand a group of people
- 25 Teased with hits of feather (6) 26 To back it is to produce a complaint (6)
  - DOWN They are related by saint over, say, crime legislation (4-2-3) Made presentation drinking tot poured out
  - in dance (7) Earliest lawn growing watered from this? (8,4) Has to show sorrow about a horse heing
  - Woman who is an idiot in motoring organisation (5) Painter of old Greece possibly dismissive of

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- editor (2,5)
  - investigator of bumps?
  - employment (7)
    19 British worker holding
    you up? Could be holding you up (7)
    21 Henry's high cost for very offensive thing (1-4)

disapproval (4)

#### While 34 per cent of the 1.23 million tickets will go on sale

A country one's right to put a question to? (4)

15 Useful quality shown by worker? (9) Second high hitter makes one slaver (7) Move of hero - new

Short Archbishop is making sounds of

# Euro 2000 deal just the ticket

THE FIRST tickets for next BY STEVE BEAUCHAMPE year's European Championship finals in the Netherlands and Belgium went on sale yesterday, as the organisers announced details of a distribution system which they promised would guarantee greater access for genuine supporters.

Members of the Euro 2000 board are keen to avoid a repeat of the debacle of last year's World Cup, where fans around the globe were angered both by the restricting of the sale of many tickets to the host nation's supporters and by the fact that large numbers of tickets ended up on the black market. There will also be no repeat of last year's system of telephone hot-lines, which saw phone lines around the world swamped by a late dash for the last tickets.

after the draw for the finals in December - those tickets will be allocated according to which countries have qualified - an initial tranche of 420,000 tickets covering each of the tournament's 31 matches are being made available to supporters throughout Europe. Applications must be submitted by 7 May this year.

To purchase tickets fans must first obtain an application form, by downloading one from the Internet or applying to the organisers in Rotterdam.

Prices range from £20 to £60 for a group game, rising to £45 to £150 for the final. However, organisers stressed that 50 per cent of the tournament's entire allocation would be priced below 110 guilders (£35).

two per person per match and can be paid for in two installments. Supporters will learn in June whether their applications have been successful and a mechanism will be put in place which allows fans unable to attend matches to nominate someone to take their place. Those attending group games will increase their

chances of successfully applying for the knock-out phase Harry Been, the Euro 2000 WAYS TO APPLY

> Post: Euro 2000 Foundation, Ticketing Department, PO Box 70028, 3000 LK Rotterdam,

Fax: (00 31) 10 297 4117 Internet: www.euro2000.org

FOR EURO 2000 TICKETS

will contest specific fixtures, it is known that Belgium will play their three group games in Brussels, while the Netherlands will play twice in Rotterdam and once in Amsterdam. The tournament begins on 10 June and ends on 2 July.

Those solely interested in following their own country should, however, wait. It will be early in 2000 before tickets for

Tickets will be limited to board secretary, explained that fans of the finalists go on sale. Each country will receive roughly 17 per cent of the vennes' capacity - up from the mere eight per cent available at France 98. In another significant

THE PERSON

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change from past tournaments. there will be no use of authorised tour operators, many of whom stood accused of exploiting fans by charging excessively for package trips linked to tickets for the World Cup in France.

However, even these changes are not expected to wipe ont the tonts completely. The decision by Uefa, European football's governing hody, to allocate 233,000 tickets to sponsors, suppliers and corporate hospitality may yet fuel the black market, as will the fact that five of the eight stadia being used have capacities of only around 30,000.

## Walsh salvo leaves Australia reeling

off and middle stumps.

AUSTRALIA WERE bowled out for 146 after hunch in their second innings on the fourth day to leave the West Indies needing 308 to win the third Test here yesterday. The tourists had slumped to 81 for 6 at lunch after a disastrous opening session.

Ricky Ponting had been unbeaten on 11 at hmch with Ian Healy on three as the Australians fought to re-establish their grip after losing four wickets for just 63 runs during the morning. However, Ponting became another of Courtney Walsh's five victims and it was left to Shane Warne to top score for Australia, making 32 before Walsh trapped him lbw.

CRICKET BY TONY COZIER

in Bridgetown, Barbados Australia 490 & 146

The visitors resumed their

innings at 18 for 2, but the West Indies quickly made inroads into the tourists' batting line-up. The opener Michael Slater was the first man to go when he was run out for 26 by a superb throw from Sherwin Campbell. Slater went recklessly for a

Collins onto his stumps. second run and Campbell That made it 73 for 6 before scored a direct hit on the Ponting and Healy edged Australia to lunch. The four-match stumps from point with Slater

just centimetres from safety. The nightwatchman Jason series is all square at 1-1. Australia won the opening Test in Gillespie soon followed, for 14, Trinidad by 312 runs but the when Curtly Ambrose pitched West Indies levelled it in Jaa ball outside the off stump that maica in the second Test with turned and removed both the a 10-wicket triumph.

The West Indies are hoping When Mark Waugh was lbw to get a clearer idea today of plumb in front to Walsh for when their injured batsman three the Australians had Shivnarine Chanderpaul will slipped to 48 for 5. Worse was be fit to return to their team. to follow for the tourists as the Chanderpaul was sent to a captain Steve Waugh, who New York hospital at the weekmade 199 in the first innings, end for further tests on the right was out for 11 when he chopped shoulder he damaged near the a useful delivery from Pedro end of the tour of South Africa earlier this year.

The West Indies' Cricket Board chief executive officer Steve Camacho said the deci-

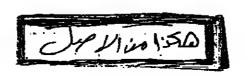
hander to New York was "a precautionary measure".

Fourth day: Australia won coss
AUSTRALIA — First limitings 450 (S R
Waugh 199, R T Pointing 104),
WEST INDIES — First limitings 329 (S Lir
Campbell 105, R D Jacobs 68; G O Mc
Grath 4-128),
AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA - Second Innings M T G Bliort c Jacobs b Wolsh
M J Slater run out (Campbell)
J L Langer Row b Ambrose
J N Gillespie b Ambrose
M E Waugh Row b Walsh
S R Waugh b Collins
R T Ponting c Griffith b Walsh
I A Healy c Jacobs b Collins
S K Warne Row b Walsh

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# IUESDAY REVIEW

FEATURES LISTINGS • ARTS **TELEVISION** 

train or a his billion.

Venus Williams has won more than \$2.5m in prize money. Serena is on the way to her first million. They've just become the first sisters since 1884 to compete in a major singles tennis final. It's all beyond the wildest dreams of their father, coach and manager, Richard. At least it would be if his other ambitions didn't include buying the \$3.9bn Rockefeller Center and outsinging Michael Jackson...



BY JOHN ROBERTS

# Like the man says, it's one hell of a double act

are guided through a crowd of spectators Method to My Madness." as they leave the tennis stadium, Serena, aged 17, sets off in her yellow BMW Z3. She is the loser, and has a cheque for £82,500. Venus, 18, the winner of the first prize, £165,000, walks heyond her black prize money alone, and Sere-Porsche 911 and squeezes into the hatchpack boot of a Mercedes station wagon (the reats in front are filled by tournament oficials) and is driven to the beach for a shoto-shoot.

Work done, victor and vanquished arrive ack at the family home along the Florida mast at Boca Raton and try to get on with heir lives as though nothing unusual has aken place, as if they have returned from me of their regular workouts together on actice court. They say there will be no loating, no sulking. "In the end." Venus ays, "it's a competition. The best comletitor wins. As soon as you walk off the ourt, the competition's over." This had not been a normal Sunday.

knus and Serena had become the first sisers to contest the singles final in a highevel tournament since women were first llowed to compete at Wimbledon in 1884. n that year, Maud Watson defeated her siser Lillian, presumably by playing the bet-er strokes while coping with a tight corset and managing not to catch her foot in the em of her long dress.

1 The Watsons were quintessentially Engsh, daughters of a clergyman who taught t Harrow and also typical devotees of a port that has traditionally been the preerve of privileged whites. The Williams sisare Mirican-Americans whose father, sharedropper's son from Shreveport, uisiana, refers to himself as King ichard He publishes a newsletter in hich he explains how he made peace with hen gave guidance to) members of the loods gang, who shot at his daughters hen they played on park courts in Comp-u, Los Angeles.

To listen to Richard Williams is to get sense of what it might have been like to eve an audience with Walter Mitty. He is o busy developing business, he says, to end a lot of time watching Venus and Sera play. "Every year I develop three busiasses," he says, "and every husiness I welop, I expect to produce anywhere from 0m to \$15m a year. The girls get really set with me because I won't go [to match-]. They go, 'You the coach'; I say, 'No, I'm nanager, too'. As a matter of fact, we're inking about buying Rockefeller Center \$3.9bn, so I don't have time to even think

This is understandable, seeing that his har projects apparently include "a lot of for the Chinese peoples and the

40.00 ्राज्य अञ्च

he Williams Sisters lished in August. "Some people have said I was mad anyway, so it's called

> It is an apt title, because whether or not Richard Williams is kidding himself or kidding the media, his achievement as his daughters' mentor is phenomenal. In next to no time, Venus has won more than \$2.5m in official na is heading for her first \$1m. And that is aside from the millions they receive from sponsorships and endorsements.

The sheer size and power of Venus and Serena is an indication of how women's professional tennis has risen to a new and pulverising level; a level that would have left previous generations gasping. Surprisingly, the Williams sister were withheld from junior tournaments. forgoing the customary route to the professional game. Their father said he did not want to risk "burn-out". Their mother, Oracene, does most of the

travelling with the girls. "I'm a mother, I'm a wife, I'm a coach," she says. "And at home I have so many other activities, because I take care of the finances. My husband is an idealist, and he's very creative." Although clearly one source of

the family's strength, Richard Williams does not share their religion. "I'm not a Jehovah Witness," he says. "They are. And I've taught them to make decisions. So whatever decision they make, they would make that decision...

But Richard Williams is strong on family unity. "My mom taught me that family is the oldest human institution; that it is society's basic unit. Entire civilisations have survived or disappeared depending on whether family life was weak or strong. I taught my kids what my mom taught me.

"Tell you something - when Venus was about four years old, my mom said, 'You can't raise two kids like I brought you up in the Forties and Fifties'. I said. 'Yes, ma'am'. But I brought them up that way anyway, because they started working at two years old. My wife was really upset with me about that. But we never have a problem with what goes on, because

they're looking to help each other all the time."

the tennis skills, there is an air of arrogance and defiance about the Williams sisters. They differ from the majority of single-minded, parent-driven tennis prodigies, emboldened partly by their sense of their own differentness, and partly by their solidarity as a pair. "We are really setting the standards for the future generation," Serena has declared. "Tennis is always going to take a step up now that

we've come along." On one occasion, the younger Williams took the opportunity to educate the clared during a press conference. "They took the Jewish people out of their homes because the Germans wanted to be on a pedestal

"There was no

compared to the

anything. So they named it the ghetto..." A reporter contradicted her "That goes back to the Middle Ages. That's not just from the 20th century.

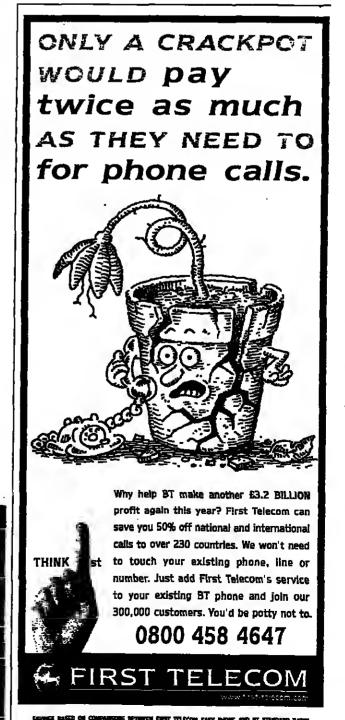
She persisted. "That was World War IL" The reporter pressed on: "Goes back way before that."

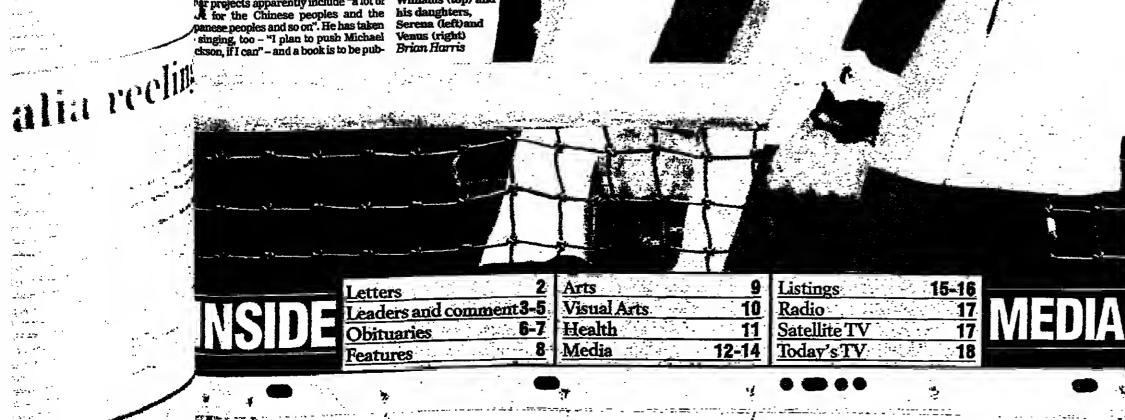
Serena would not budge: "You have your information and I have mine."

Last week, on the subject of siblings, Ser ena was asked whether she was aware that the older one tends to have the upper hand mentally. "I was never aware of siblings having the upper hand mentally," she said. "I think that's just something that's in a book. You can't always trust that,"

We can only guess what the late Arthur Ashe would have made of the Williamses The 1975 Wimbledon champion emerged triumphantly from the racial prejudice he assembled media about encountered growing up in Virginia and bethe etymology of the came a sporting icon of the civil rights word "ghetto". "It was a movement, beloved of his peers. The ten-German word," she de-nis stadium at the US Open is named in his honour. But the Williams family has prospered in different times. Richard Williams is only too happy to acknowledge that for all the drawbacks to being black in America, hard work can bring rewards.

"I don't think a lot of people understand how good America is until they leave this country," he says,"I know when I was young, I used to say, 'To hell with America'. But when I got a chance to travel, and sanitation area, fac- when you see what it's like in these other ilities to use inside or countries... brother, I love America."





#### Send in the troops

Sir: Nato's use of massive air strikes against Yugoslavia will be seen by much of rest of the world as buge overkill against a small nation which is fighting, however savagely, for its own sovereign territory.

A better way to deal with the crisis would have been to deploy troops in Kosovo. Troops could have guarded the indigenous civilian population, and kept the KLA in check. Massive use of air power will undoubtedly seriously weaken the Yugoslav army, but will not stop its infantry burning villages in Kosovo unless it faces ground troops too.

If the West isn't willing to put its soldiers' lives on the line, then why are we hothering with the whole business of Kosovo anyway?

The absence of United Nations involvement serves notice that the organisation bas latterly turned into a body for rubber-stamping resolutions against the West's antagonists when required. HOWARD GETHIN

Sir: Anne McElvoy preaches at me for "petty selfishness" (Comment, 24 March) for arguing in the Daily Mnil that the Nato attack on Yugoslavia, a sovereign state committing no aggression beyond its own borders, is a breach of the UN Charter and likewise of the North Atlantic Treaty. Does she think that morally condemning my article destroys the validity of its political and strategic analysis?

Since I wrote and she wrote, the course of events is proving sceptics like myself (who include an impressive array of retired military men and elder statesmen from Kissinger to Healey) to have been completely correct in our judgement that Nato's ill-thoughtout policy, based on emotion and simplistic moralising, would lead to disaster. In particular, it has plunged the Kosovans, the objects of Nato's solicitude, into their present calamity.

Perhaps this experience will teach "Bomber" Blair and "Cruise" Clinton that state policy should be based on sense rather than sensibility. CORRELLI BARNETT East Carleton, Norfolk

Sir. On Thursday you reported Mr Blair as saying we were taking military action "to damage Serb forces sufficiently to to prevent Milosevic from continuing to perpetuate his vile oppression against innocent Albanian civilians". On Saturday you headline: "Serbs retaliate with massacres".

How damaged will Serb military installations need to be before Serb police forces reduce their massacre rate to what it was before Nato started its air action? How many thousands will need to he massacred hefore we are told it has been necessary to send in ground troops? How long before we have pictures of body bags being unloaded in the UK? BOB ESCOLME Walberton, West Sussex

Sir: When will we ever learn? In 1941, the Luftwaffe launched night bombing raids on this country, with the object of weakening civilian morale. Much damage was caused, many were killed or injured, but morale remained staunch.

Learning nothing from this. Churchill's War Cabinet directed Bomber Command to conduct bombing raids on Germany with the intent of weakening workers' morale, specifically targeting working-class districts. Great destruction ensued, casualties were heavy, but the strategy failed. Sir Charles Webster and Noble Frankland, who studied the effects of the bombing campaign, concluded in 1961 that "the morale of German workforce, like the British, was not significantly impaired".

Learning nothing from this, the United States during the Vietnam War of the 1970s launched a bombing campaign of unprecedented ferocity against the Vietcong. Many were killed, great tracts laid waste but, in the

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Ballet School No 2: the Davies School of Ballet is a family affair; Felicity teaches while her aunt accompanies the dancers on the piano

Ann Doherty

cause: the 32 years of Suharto's

marginalised all the indigenous

peoples of the archipelago. The

Dayaks, Malays and Madurese of

military dictatorship which

the victims of a government

"development" policy which

Indonesia's immense natural

wealth to a small elite of the

Subarto family, its husiness

associates, the military and

programme - backed directly by

the World Bank in the 1970s and

80s - resettled 1,600,000 families,

mainly from Java, Bali and

Hundreds of thousands of

settlers. The Indonesian

Madura, to the outer islands.

"unofficial settlers" followed in

their wake. The ancestral forests

of many indigenous peoples were cleared to make way for the

government admits to destroying

over 1 million hectares of tropical

rainforest for transmigration; the

The transmigration

handed over control of

foreign companies.

event, it was American political will, not Vietnamese, that broke.

Now Nato, having learnt nothing from previous bombing campaigns, has launched its own against Serbia with the intention of hreaking Serb will, in particular that of Mr Milosevic. One may predict that it will fail. Serb morale will not falter; it may well, like the British, German, and Russian during the Second World War, be strengthened by adversity. Bombing raids will not stop the eviction of Kosovars, any more than the United States and British hombing campaigns halted Hitler's Holocaust.

In war, there is no substitute for infantry and armour. One should not play this dangerous game if one is not prepared to take heavy Dr LESLIE PALMIER

Sir: Whilst Nato has been bombing Serbian military targets, the Serb military and police have been rounding up Albanians in towns in Kosovo and spiriting them away. Yet it was our stated objective to protect the people of Kosovo. You cannot save people without putting humanitarian forces on the ground.

So we have lost. What now? I suspect that we will carry on bombing until the pygmies that we call our leaders tell us what a glorious victory we have achieved. Tell that to the people of Kosovo. ROYTOPP Snnderstead, Surrey

Sir. The West is partly to blame for current massacres in Kosovo. During the six months of diplomacy. Milosevic was reinforcing his forces in Kosovo and the West sat back and let him do it. Had the bombing raids occurred six months ago, then there would have been far fewer Serbian troops in Kosovo to commit the current outrages. MARC HURSTFIELD Northfleet, Kent

Sir: For the cost of all those cruise missiles, lost aircraft and bombs

heing dropped on Serbia we could be having a far greater impact on future generations in achieving peace and justice by funding the sort of education programmes that Clare Short is visiting in India.

Why is it that we can always afford bombs and missiles immediately but we constantly struggle to reach the UN target of 0.7 per cent GNP for aid? Creating a just world will also create a peaceful world. I doubt if fighting "just wars" will. ANDREW PRING Bradford, West Yorkshire

Sir: Much has been made of the fact that the current bombing of Serbia is the first time Nato has attacked a sovereign state. True, hut the US - senior and heavyweight member of Nato - has a history of doing just that. Vietnam, and more recently Iraq, the unjustified bombing of the Sodan pharmaceutical factory. All have failed to achieve their

It is time that the equation USA equals Nato equals UN commonly held in the US - is seen

for what it is: might is right. There will be winners from this war - the arms dealers and manufacturers. HUGH BARRETT Halesworth, Suffolk

Sir: I would like to think that it

was hypocrisy and not paying

Ashton story newsworthy (leading article, 29 March). If

he had "taken the privacy of the individual seriously" he

his ludicrous abuse-of-trust

provisions on to the Sexual

age of consent. CHRISTOPHER ANTON

Birmingham

Offences (Amendment) Bill,

Sir: Hang on a minute. If the

to be charging too much and

large supermarkets are shown

which reduced the homosexual

would not have decided to tack

for sex that made the Joe

#### Palace coup

Sir: On 3 March Bromley Council had to commence the eviction of a group of squatters at great cost and risk to the staff of the undersheriff, police and security teams which was only concluded last week when the last two walked out.

What they and the Crystal Palace Campaign ("A whiff of the secret state in a suburb", 15 March) wish to deny the local community is much more than just a leisure development. They are also trying to deny the business and resident communities access to a £150m regeneration scheme which will include the creation of 1,100 new full-time jobs, 120 new businesses and expenditure of £5m on training and educational

They would also deny us the opportunity to expand and improve the historical Crystal Palace Park they claim to defend.

Your article gives a figure of 2,000 police and security guards as being present; 300 is more accurate. CHRIS MAINES Leader, Liberal Democrat Group SUE POLYDOROU

Leader, Labour Group MICHAEL TICKNER Leader, Conservative Group Bromley Council, Kent

IN BRIEF

forced to reduce their prices

just bow will that help the

already? HARVEY R COLE

Winchester

(Business Outlook, 23 March),

small independent food shops

which are struggling to survive

Sir: In saying that the Tories under William Hague are

looking "about as electable as

Val Doonican", Deborah Ross

unnecessarily disparaging of Val Doonican. At least Val can

(Review, 29 March) was

Sir: It's all very well for Pat Palmer (letter, 18 March) to be nostalgic about Crystal Palace Park in south-east London and to support its "regeneration". He/she resides in Beckenham.

Those of us who live in the shadow of Crystal Palace are less than enthusiastic about a "multiplex" with 18 cinema screens, nine restaurants and spaces for 950 cars.

I am sure the regeneration budget can be put to better use than inflicting this monstrosity on the area. DAPHNE COWAN London SE21

#### Indonesian horrors

Sir: The murders and mutilations Richard Lloyd Parry reports in West Kalimantan ("Apocalypse now". 25 March) are symptomatic of the systematic oppression of indigenous, tribal communities by the Indonesian state. Young Dayaks dispossessed and disenfranchised in their own land

 have taken the law into their own hands with horrific results.

The "combination of economic distress and the break down of law and order" prevailing in Indonesia to which Lloyd Parry briefly refers have a deeper

sing and has some cracking

jumpers. PETER WADE

Colchester, Essex

Sir: Last Thursday was

was visited by the Angel

Annunciation Day, when Mary

Gabriel, ultimately resulting,

Christmas Day. During the

conceive babies in hopes of

Millennium. Does this mean

Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan

Jesus was a week premature?

same week many modern

couples were trying to

their arriving on the

DAVID H LEWIS

so we're told, in Jesus' birth on

real figure is many times higher. Most of the forest and productive agricultural land in West Kalimantan has been parcelled out as concessions to logging and plantation companies. No lessons have been learnt

> left dozens dead and tens of thousands homeless in West Kalimantan in early 1997 or from the forest fires which devastated 5 million bectares of land in 1997 and a further 500,000 hectares in 1998. Since the fall of Suharto last May, the Habibie government has continued in his footsteps. Aided and abetted by the IMF and the World Bank, its answer to Indonesia's economic crisis is the exploitation of the country's natural resources to increase exports. The expansion of the oil palm industry and timber exports is a key element in this. Transmigration (and international support for it) has continued

from the bloody conflict which

#### Design for sneering

Sir. I, too, opplaud the desire of Marco Goldschmied, president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, to convince us all of the importance of good design ("A fresh facade for British architecture", 22 March).

All Cannot

minis in th

protect Ke

However, I entirely disagree with those who, like Robin Butterell, believe that the Brite, public's conservative taste for architecture is "largely due to ignorance" (letter, 24 March).

In truth it is the ignorance of Riba establishment types which prevents them seeing the beauty. look ond durability of classical and traditional architecture.

The mass-production approach to huilding design, mixed with socialist dogma and an unbealthy post-war economy has left future generations with a massive problem of unwanted Modernist buildings. Our post-industrial world gives a little more chance to consider environmental issues, and once again, craft, longevity, history, culture and beauty are at the forefront of the public's priorities.

This is the time to relearn the skills and reasoning behind real architecture, classical architecture and to teach it in schools. It is vital for the survival of the architects' profession that it understands the priorities of the British public and stops sneering at it. CHRIS PHILLIPS London SE10

Sir: Presumably, Robin Butterell is referring to the pseudo halftimbered cottage, constructed by sticking some black-painted softwood on to an inner skin of breeze blocks.

It is necessary to distinguish between these, new timber-framed houses built according to traditional methods, and genuinely old timber-framed buildings. The best way to preserve the latter is for people to continue living in them.
All who do, or aspire to live in an

preserve any old huilding, would be well advised to join the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. They will provide a delightful education in how to treat the building sensitively and repair it with the proper materials. CGNOEL Ledbury, Herefordshire West Kalimantan are just a few of

#### Herbal boom

Sir. The article "More control sought on herbal cures" (23 March) suggests that stricter controls on herbal medicines should be imposed because of the "dangers of side effects".

This is unconvincing, as the accompanying table of "five popular herbal remedies" demonstrated side effects are, in fact, very rare, 🐞 very slight or non-existent. Any attempt to draw up a list of equally benign pharmaceutical drugs would be doomed to failure.

The real issue is as old as the free market itself, and concerns the sale of over-the-counter herbal remedies that make over-inflated claims for products that may be of poor quality and purity, and lack proper labelling. Safety is not the main issue. Ripping people off is. With the rise in interest in herbal medicine, unscrupulous producers

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are trying to cash in on the boom. Legislation, if enacted clumsily, may throw out the baby with the bath water, and prevent responsible medical herbalists from practising. If this happens there is a risk that herbal medicines would become the sole domain of the worst profiteer of them all - the pharmaceutical companies. KWATSON Portsmouth.

#### Rough justice

Sir: John Walsh is correct when he tells us that golf is "popular with all socio-economic classes" (John Walsh on Monday, 29 March), That working-class Cockney wit, raconteur, musician and author Derek Brimstone once revealed to me its further appeal: "The worse you are the more goes you get." ROBERT VINCENT Andover, Hampshire

# 'This is the captain. You're about to land. I'm already home.'

Very Unusual Jobs Indeed No 39 in the series: an airline pilot who works from home! I USED to read all those articles

about the trend towards working at home, and I used to feel sorry for all those guys. Here was L an airline pilot, trotting round the globe. seeing exotic places, and there were these people stuck in their houses and never getting out. I never dreamt that one day it would he me. And it's the best thing that ever happened to me."

Digby Stratford is an experienced pilot to whom the worst thing in the world happened. He became afraid of flying.

"It all started when I had a narrow miss coming in to Heathrow some Canadian plane which flew past about 400ft away.

"If you're driving and you avoid fly a plane from the ground - and

a car hy 400ft, it's called being on the far side of a hig car park, but if you miss a plane by 400ft, it's called being lucky to be alive.

"I started thinking about accident rates and life expectancy and things, and before I knew where I was, I had acquired a fear of flying and was starting to sweat and twitch and have little black-outs. That's no condition to fly in.

"Well, I was the most experienced pilot the airline had, and they didn't want to lose me. But there was no way I was going to go up in a plane again. I could have gone into training, I suppose, and taken over the pilot-training programme. But before it came to that I suggested, half in joke, half in despair, that instruments were so sophisticated these days. I could always the chief computer boffin said it was well within the bounds of possibility!

"And he was right. Most flying these days is done on instrument. The captain doesn't have to do more than a bit of landing, take-off and correction. I have known flights on which the most strenuous thing I have done was make the announcements to the passengers. So it made sense to rig up some controls and instruments at home, and see if it worked. And it does.

"In my study at home I now have a mock-up of a cockpit installed. I have satellite links to the flight I am flying, and I can pick up immediately any alteration to speed, wind speed, temperature, fuel consumption, whatever I can relay instructions back to the cockpit, without even bothering the others



**MILES KINGTON** 

It might be that unmanned flights are the way forward, with me being the pioneer

So there is someone in the cockpit, is there? "Ob yes, the other officers are

there, ready to do the small tasks which they always did do. But I am in charge. And in a sense, this is more efficient than if I were really in the plane." How can that be true?

Well, for a start, because I don't have all the hassle of getting to the airport and arriving tired and going through all the formalities and getting into uniforms that nobody in their right mind would want to wear... I can concentrate on the flying, and the flying alone."

But surely if you are 2,000 miles away from the plane you're flying, you don't have the same kind of involvement?

"You'd think so, wouldn't you? And yet we have unmanned trains and unmanned space rockets, and nobody thinks that odd. Do you think a Nasa scientist would be

more involved if he were on board the flight? Or do you perhaps think he might be more detached in Dallas, and more efficient? It might be that unmanned jet passenger planes are the way forward, and that I am an accidental pioneer."

FRANCES CARR

Down to Earth

London SE1S

As be speaks, he leans forward and adjusts a couple of knobs. Suddenly, it dawns on us that all the time he has been chatting, he has in fact been flying a plane. But where is it? And where is it going?

"Coming from New York to London. Where the plane is, it's still dark and everyone on board is asleep. That's another advantage of remote pilotage - being wide awake in daylight while the plane you're flying is in the middle of the night. No danger of nodding off

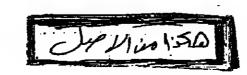
here! Oh, thanks, darling." This to his wife, who has just lost - I'll still be alive!"

come in with a cup of coffee. And what does Mrs Stratford think of baving a pilot husband at home all the time?

"It's great!" she says. "I used to miss him a lot. It was a strain on both of us. But now that he works at borne, it's wonderful.

"Of course, it's a bit odd passing his study and hearing him say, If you look out of the starboard windows in five minutes, you can see the lights of Paris below you ... 'And we don't get the free flights any more. Just simulated flights. But as he's now got this fear of flying, that's just as well."

"And don't forget, honey," says Digby Stratford, "that if by a million-to-one chance the plane I am flying is involved in some terrible disaster, and everyone on board is



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Witness - J

### Nato cannot delay sending in troops to protect Kosovo

IN LESS than a week, the war in Yugoslavia has escalated beyond Nato's initial aims. The evidence that women and children - and worryingly few men - are ficeing from Kosovo to Albania proves that the war has become a potentially genocidal conflict.

The responsibility for this falls on Slobodan Milosevic, President of Yugoslavia. He has exploited Allied air attacks to step up his policy of eviction and slaughter.

It is easy to blame Nato for this. But Mr Milosevic's campaign of terror was hotting up while negotiations were still under way with the Allies and the Kosovo Liberation Army, and there is evidence that the assault on the Kosovo Albanians began when the international observers is were pulled out, before the war started.

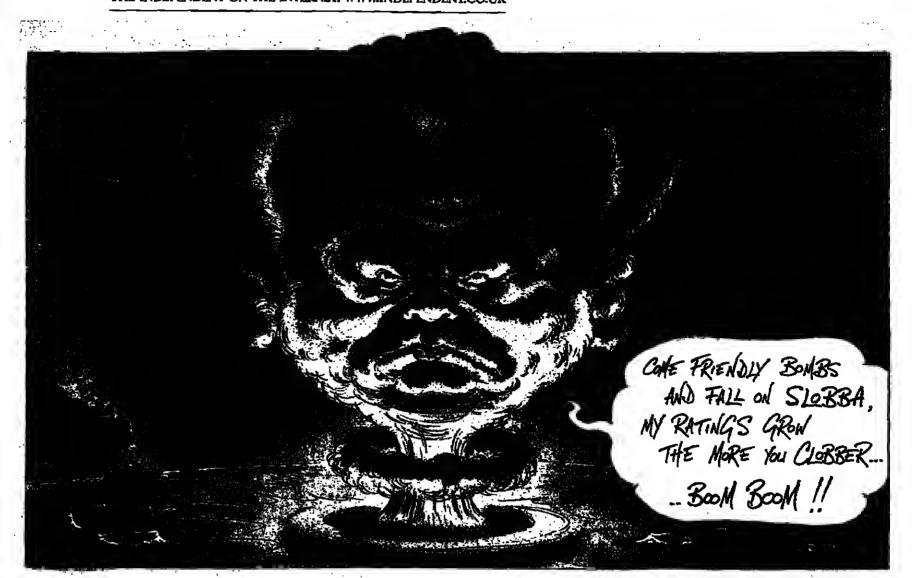
After the recent murder of moderates, including Fehmi Agani, the main adviser to Ibrahim Rugova, the Kosovar Albanians' voice of peace, Nato members must accept that Mr Milosevic has decided to keep Kosovo as part of Serbia - without its Albanian-speaking majority.

In these circumstances, Nato's policy must move beyond attempting to force Mr Milosevic to implement the Rambouillet terms. Indeed, these are already moribund. From punishing Serbian aggression in Kosovo, Nato must now act to prevent it.

This could be accomplished in two stages. First, Nato must change tactics. As well as diminishing the Serbian army's potential to fight, Nato must, in particular, stop the fighting in Kosovo. Nato will have to concentrate its force on the Serbian infantry, tanks and armoured personnel vehicles in the province. High-altitude hit-and-run bombing missions will have to be supplemented by loweraltitude attacks on infantry and vehicles. The Afghan war showed how vulnerable aircraft are at such heights. Inevitably, therefore, Nato and Western public opinion must be prepared for the sight of body bags.

Second, Nato will need to decide how this campaign is to end. It has already gone on long enough without a focused picture of the status quo post bellum. Nato should send in ground troops to establish a protectorate over Kosovo. This would not only defend the lives of the province's Albanian-speaking majority but also secure the territorial integrity of Yugoslavia, so as to prevent the spread of the conflict into neighbouring states. There is already a partial precedent for this step in the shape of Nato's presence in Bosnia.

Establishing a protectorate is a painful decision for which there is little political consensus. So far, only Paddy Ashdown's Liberal Democrats have given it their backing. Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, announced in the House of Commons last week that British soldiers would move into Kosovo only with the consent of both Serbs and



ethnic Albanians. Yesterday, in a Commons exchange with Mr Ashdown, Mr Blair moved towards this position, pointedly refusing to rule out the idea of a protectorate.

Establishing a protectorate will entail casualties, and not a little cost. Nonetheless, there is no other way, short of an invasion of Yugoslavia, that Nato can prevent the pogroms that occurred in Bosnia.

A protectorate would also ease the pressure on Mediterranean Nato states, including Italy and Greece. Italy's support for Nato is becoming strained with the arrival of boat-loads of refugees on its shores. The prospect of holiday resorts full of Kosovar refugees, and beaches filled with anti-aircraft batteries, is nightmarish for both the country's politicians and its tourist industry.

Nato must not dither, but resolve this crisis quickly not least to prevent civilian casualties in Serbia proper. Mr Milosevic is leading all the citizens of Yugoslavia into · a dark and frightening place; for all of their sakes Nato must swiftly bring the war to a stable conclusion.

#### A chance to improve the countryside for all

SOMETIMES PEOPLE cannot resist a cliché. Ramblers' groups have described the Government's decision yesterday to appoint Ewen Cameron as chairman of the new Countryside Agency as like "putting an alcoholic in charge of a pub". Surely, as Mr Cameron was president of the Country Landowners Association, it is more a case of gamekeeper turned poacher.

Ramblers are worried that Mr Cameron is being appointed to water down the Government's promise of a right to roam. The evidence for this accusation is his background in leading efforts to stymie ramblers' access to the land. He is credited with inventing the idea of "voluntary access", which would have made it hard for walkers to go any distance, while maintaining a semblance of openness.

But Mr Cameron has stated that the presumption in favour of access "must be the better route". To this end the Agency is embarking on an extensive mapping of the countryside to define what the right to roam really means.

Mr Cameron has talked sensibly and persuasively about his new role. He sees the Countryside Agency as working on behalf of those who work in the country and those who own it, as well as those who, from time to time, visit it.

The Government has created the Countryside Agency by amalgamating the Countryside Commission and the Rural Development Commission. By doing so, it brings together people and landscape, which were previously apart, for the purposes of developing a plan to maintain and improve the countryside for the benefit of all

A host of countryside issues need urgent attention. Housing heads the agenda. Young people find it increasingly difficult to afford to live in the country. Villages will die without their presence, and townies might not find an empty countryside quite as picturesque as our present one.

# While the rich get richer, it's still the poor that get the blame

TODAY'S COLUMN is about crystal therapy. I had intended to write about poverty in Britain, but when I went down to the local bookshop I couldn't find anything to help me except a couple of anecdotal journeys into The English Heart of Darkness (you know, hookers, crack and manslaughter). Whereas there was a wealth of material - shelves of it - on how to Approve your chakras, colour your auras and transcend your ids. Perhaps if that 40 per cent of British people now defined by the Treasury as being on or below the poverty line were to get on down to their bookshops and pick up a few tips, they would be happier. if not necessarily any richer. It works in the Orient, doesn't it?

My bookshop is not run by callous people who care nothing about the poor. On the contrary. And despite the fact that one of the men has a ponyineither is it a New Age coven. Its shelves merely reflect what publishers publish, and what a very diverse set of customers will buy. In fact, I myself have blown nearly £150 there in the past three weeks. Which happens to be £11 more than a family of four living on half of average earnings has available to spend in a week, once housing costs have been paid. The same amount - £129 - that parts for their food, ciothes, entertainment, transport and -I dare sayfags, would get my lot a weekend in Center Parcs, a day at Disneyland Paris, or (a special treat) dinner for

two at The Ivy. Part of the problem here may be that poverty ain't what it used to be. Forget rat-infested rookeries; our

plumbing, satellite TV and shoes. For the "if you haven't got cholera, then you're not poor" school of social justice, this definition of poverty as being relative is most offensive. How can you be said to be poor if you have all you need to stay alive, and then a bit?

Add to that the fact that many of us see poverty as being either intractable or, sadly, the consequence of moral or genetic weakness. Oh, don't deny it. Only academics can go through life without encountering such opinions in the pub or round the table. You tune into some appalling TV show, and discover the tale of Nicky or Sheila, who is 25, looks 55, and has five scrawny, shaven-headed kids by five different fathers. Then your chest hursts open and out pops your hideous, hidden, internal eugenicist,

shouting "hysterectomy!" And yet, for all the war stuff, if there's been one subject this Government has been banging on about this spring, it's been poverty. A few weeks ago old Tone was pledging himself to end child poverty inside 25 years, and yesterday Gordon Brown made action to eradicate poverty one of the central planks of the Government's mid-term platform.

So you can't help wondering whether they may not really mean it. But if they do, as James Naughtie twice asked the Chancellor yesterday. then why are they not advocating wholesale redistribution from the rich to the poor (presumably via the taxation system)? If poverty is relative, then inequality is as much the problem as is want. Therefore, the de-



#### **DAVID** AARONOVITCH

Trouble is, poverty ain't what it used to be. Forget rat-infested hovels, our poor have satellite TV and shoes

fault equation suggests, we should take from the haves and give to the have-nots.

Mrs Thatcher, of Charse, thought that inequality per se was good. "Opportunity," she said in 1975, "means nothing unless it includes the right to be unequal. Let our children grow tall and let some grow taller than others if they have it in them to do so." (incidentally, that sentence is so much less attractive when reversed, as in "let our children grow tall, but let lots of them grow much smaller than the others, if they can't keep up.") Increased wealth - the consequence of free-market reform and low taxation - would trickle down to the poorest in the form of jobs. And even if inequality of outcome grew, the overall consequence would be benign.

became no richer either. In relative terms, however, they went off the edge of the board, and there were many more of them. And the reason why it matters is that - as vesterday's report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows - rank inequality of outcome pisses people off, demotivates them, criminalises them and worst of all, disadvantages their children. These kids look around them and see a world in which they cannot hope to compete.

Many of them give up. The Rowntree report sees two major factors behind this development. The first is unemployment and the second (which I feel the report's authors try to play down) is lone parenthood. The second can obviously be related to the first. And in both cases access to jobs is the key problem. Well, the Government is doing a whole lot about that, and it claims some success

for its New Deal measures. But the main way in which children are going to break out of the inherited straitjacket of poverty is through education. And here, last week's figures about the scale of illiteracy and innumeracy in Britain should terrify us. One-quarter of Britons (and you wonder how closely these people correlate with those living in poverty) are functionally illiterate or innumerate. (This is four times the proportion of illiterates as in Sweden, so you can imagine, therefore, how impressed I was the other week to receive a pamphlet from the Social Market Foundation entitled "The Rise and Fall of the Swedish Model".)

And yet, when the Government

schools, you can't make yourself heard for the din of middle-class columnists talking about how their kids don't need it! Nevertheless, it is possible to imagine a situation in which everyone would have jobs, everyone was better educated, and yet there was still mas-

sive inequality. As Anthony Giddens has pointed out unbridled meritocracies can create huge differences in outcome between people whose talents are themselves only marginally different. These great gaps then become chasms of advantage too large for the

next generations to bridge. We could use much more central control to equalise wages, or we could tax much more heavily those who earn a lot. But that's largely academic. The consequence of too heavy-handed an approach would be a flight of talent and an epidemic of tax evasion. The minin an wage is probably as much central pay control as anyone wants. And any progressive social strategy will fail it it alienates middle-class opin-

ion too much. It's sad, but there it is. We might try a bit harder to ensure that advantage and disadvantage were not hereditary. This could mean taxing private schools and making them less attractive as opposed to state schools, freezing or abolishing the tax-free inheritance threshold (why are rich kids any less prone to dependency than poor ones?), and doing all that we can to persuade teenage girls to wait a while before

having that baby. And if that fails, there's always the

state of affairs. Their insis- NO ONE knows if the pro-

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I always think it's better to be cynical than gullible." Marcelle d'Argy Smith, former 'Cosmopolitan' editor, Pro-Euro Tory candidate

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will shrink from the service of their country." Thomas Paine British writer and philosopher

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WHAT HAPPENS this week will be effectively the test of whether the "Republican family" is now truly committed to peaceful methods or if what we bave seen so far has been nothto "unarmed struggle". Those who are committed to purely democratic methods have given everything that is within their gift to the various paramilitaries who have declared that they too want to participate. The privilege of demo-

cratically elected office while a private, armed force operates on the streets cannot be ceded. It will be an instructive week.

THE MERCHANTS of death are still with us. They are standing in the wings, waiting for failure. No one is in any doubt as to the enormity of the task ahead of our political leaders. We have suspicion and mistrust be-

## MONITOR

In fact, the very poorest, while be-

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

The Irish press considers the prospects for the Belfast agreement as Easter approaches

day approaches we place our lence of the past. faith, trust and prayers in the Irish News a long way to go before fear, hands of our elected leaders to find a way through the current THE IRA and Sinn Fein are far began over four years ago. tween the two communities impasse. We cannot go back to from blameless in this sorry Irish Echo

can be overcome. As Good Fri- the misery and relentless vio-

tence on sticking to the letter Agreement parties can reach a of the agreement rather than recognising their broader oblig-sure-cooker politics will intenations under it has helped fuel unionist suspicions about their course, have not exactly been helpful. Indeed, David Trimble's intransigence on the issue has turned it into the major obstacle to progress that the peace process has faced since it

sify when Blair and Bertie Ahern arrive. Ulster Unionists long term aims. Unionists, of have made clear they will table a motion at the Assembly to exclude Sinn Fein if decommissioning has not begun. Dr Mowlam insisted that parties would have to face up to trying to find a way forward and insisted there is no plan "B". Belfast Telegraph

deal for the second year. Pres-

## **PANDORA**

POOR CHRISTOPHER Sylvester. The pasty-faced Express diarist who writes under the ill-starred pseudonym Brutus has been reduced to lifting items from this column to fill his own. Pandora's a charitable type, but yesterday the hapless chump managed to run a story that appeared here last Thursday (Max Hastings mishearing "venison" for "Benetton"). Somehow Brutus still managed to pepper Pandora's five-day-old yarn with inaccurate misquotations. Even The Express's proprietor, Clive Hollick, didn't bother to deny this week that Sylvester's column is "snide and fanciful". Perhaps it's invidious to blame Sylvester, a quondam night-club crooner, since the pressure's obviously telling on other prisoners of the luckless Luhyanka. As The Express's circulation plunges full speed ahead, down through the magic million barrier, trade press reports indicate advertisers are starting to desert in droves.

SMASH THAT stereotype -Kiwis are the least sexy people on the planet, according to a new survey. When asked their idea of a perfect evening only 1 in 40 New Zealanders picked sex. It came in behind dining ont (29.5 per cent), a gig (13 per cent) gambling (10 per cent) and getting a good night's sleep (9 per cent.) Only 1 per cent of Kiwis under 30 rated sex as their favourite pm pursuit.

MIND THE generation gap. In response to Roger Chapman (and other eagle-eyed readers who e-mailed Pandora that the 21st century starts on 1 January 2001) here are 10 things you may not know about those who will be 21 in 2001, courtesy of Metin Alsanjak, 19: They've never known life without Aids; they don't know Michael Jackson shoes to feature air



Roundabout, The Clangers and Bagpuss. They've never seen an episode of ITV's Crossroads.

SO GERI Halliwell (pictured) has reportedly snared £300,000 to write a book. Enquiring minds want to know: what was the last book she read? Pandora has a suggestion... Pandora. By Anne Rice. Arrow publishes the £4.99 Vampire paperback next month. But does the Titian-tressed temptress share Pandora's taste for blood?

NORMAN LAMONT'S steadfast support for Pinochet noir runs to 72 written parliamentary questions. Their cost to taxpayers is £8,280. That huys three roundtrips to Santiago. Or 33 flights to Madrid - one way.

CAN THIS be true? Johncy Depp, fresh from his extensive absinthesampling session with Dr Hunter S Thompson, has been signed up to advertise the mind-bending liquor on

THE RACE to the Butt of Sack

continues - now it's the Beat Generation icon Lawrence Ferlinghetti who's weighing in with a few tips. The founder of the legendary City Lights imprint says that the laureateship selection process is "congealed". Ferlinghetti, one of a highly select pool of poets whose volumes have sold more than a million copies (A Coney Island of the Mind), says friends of his recently saw Seamus Heaney reading at Berkeley University: "They fell asleep." Ferlinghetti. 79, pauses before suggesting the "younger" poets Adrian Mitchell and Tom Pickard, then corrects himself "I guess they're not that young any more." Finally he plumps for Bay-area-based, Englishthinks we could do worse - a



THERE WAS something unbearably poignant about the news that the comedian Rod Hull had taken to writing novels in his later years. Within days of the zany, madcap emu-toter falling off a roof to his death, his widow had announced to the press that the most fitting memorial the world could offer her former husband was to make his fiction available in bookshops.

So, even in death, Rod was in touch with the zeitgeist. Years ago, he enacted a national fantasy hy wrestling Michael Parkinson to the floor in front of the camera, scuffing his suit and ruffling his normally immaculate hair while the great Yorkshireman, clearly infuriated, had to pretend to be amused at his own humiliation. Now Rod Hull, with the help of his widow, has expressed the dream of the moment: salvation through publication.

Harmless enough, you might think. In this last Easter week of the second millennium, there's a powerful yearning for a faith that will give deeper meaning, a spiritual di-mension, to our humdrum, everyday lives. The more lame-brained turn to the National Lottery or to one of



#### **TERENCE** BLACKER

Everyone has a book in them but almost always it's a book of interest only to its author

the gambling and share-dealing opportunities provided by the Internet. Others find solace in one or several of the endless New Age idiocies being peddled in astrology columns, on the heal-your-life shelves of bookshops or on Russell Grant's dial-apsychic phone-in on Talk Radio, An enviable few are able to cling to the original Easter message, bravely choosing to ignore the fact that on

Sunday they could find themselves sharing a pew with Glenn Hoddle, Sir Cliff Richard, Rowan Atkinson and Ann Widdecombe.

Finding salvation through publication

But none of these versions of paradise can quite compete with salvation through publication. It provides the distant possibility of a jackpot of royalties, a ticket in the great celebrity raffle. It allows you to discover and exhibit the deeper nobler, more sensitive aspects of your character without paying a therapist. In the case of Rod Hull it could even provide a sort of afterlife, in the local WH Smith.

For some reason, this spiritual

course particularly appeals to comedians, who long to reveal in fiction all the conflicts, confusions and heartaches they are obliged to conceal from their public. Ernie Wise's best (and only) joke tapped into the showbiz fantasy of a comic whose real and undiscovered talent lay in the serious plays that he wrote. The genius Les Dawson would regnlarly pester the publishers of his comedy books to consider his more important work as a novelist. Since then, a tradition of fiction-struck comic actors has become well-

established, with Hugh Laurie, Michael Palin, Adrian Edmundson, Richard E Grant, Arabella Weir and Robert Newman all trying their hand. Some of them (Ardal O'Hanlon, David Baddiel, Nigel Planer) are good writers, but few tend to per-

perience of the novelist's life. The problem occurs when this desire to resolve inner unhappiness and domestic mess infects people who do not have an acting career to which they can return. At literary festivals, would-be writers in search of tips now outnumber mere readers of books. Anyone who teaches a creative writing course quickly discovers that what most people want to express in print is not a story, nor an interpretation of the world in which they find themselves, but a thrilling, egocentric and, above all, therapeutic expati-

severe beyond that one harsh ex-

moment - me, me, me. Yet, in spite of the success of the many exhibitionistic memoirs in which childhood, marriage or general unhappiness provides succulent tithits for a prurient readership, raw therapy in book form, particularly in

ation of that universal theme of the

fiction, is rarely worth reading; the very attitude that is useful in life the desire to be loved - is disastrous when it comes to fiction, as the work of most actors and politicians invariably proves.

Lies

Real novelists quarry their lives all right, but they are not interested in neat psychological resolutions and, if they are any good, they present themselves in a way which, in a world run by spin doctors, can be discomfiting. The very columnists and critics who express moral outrage at the views of, to take recent examples, Philip Roth, VS Naipaul, John Updike, Jeanette Winterson or Martin Amis, are merely confirming that their fiction is doing its job.

Of course, everyone has a book in them - not two, just one - but, almost always it's a book of interest only to its author. There may even be a case for using lottery money to produce a vast library of memoirs and therapy-fiction (print run: five cooies), which will cure people of the need to write - as well as providing historians with an archive of national frustration and dissatisfaction.

It could be called the Rod Hull

# Why do politicians never resign for the right reasons?

I FEEL a particular sympathy for Joe Ashton, the Labour MP who has decided not to stand for the next Parliament after being caught in a massage parlour. For I too have ended up in what is inevitably called a Seedy Sauna offering kinky services, and you may or may not choose to believe the explanation,

When people are stationed in Moscow, the traditional steam hath and massage are standard treats for the pallid community of foreigners throughout the long winter months. When a Russian contact heard that my fiancé was arriving for the weekend, he offered us the gift of a day in a sauna frequented by the cream of the Russian government. Ooh, we thought, that will be nice: a back rub. a circulation-enhancing beating with hirch twigs and the mere possibility of the Interior Minister being in the very next cubicle.

It did not go like that. We should have been warned by the orgasmic pop music and the Polish pornographic posters featuring maidens with their swimming costumes on backwards. Anatoly, the masseur, was puzzled by our insistence on keening towels with us and kept asking piteously whether we needed anything else, or should he hring in another woman or a friend? Eventually, my fiancé uttered the heroic British understatement: "Er something's not right here", and we made our excuses and left, followed by hard stares and mutterings about

Mr Ashton does not appear to have been so naive. But there was nothing illegal in his attending the parlour; he did not pay for sex and nor was the option put to him. The poor man hadn't even got into his bubble bath when the police arrived. He had no need to offer Tony Blair

It may raise a snigger to learn



#### ANNE **MCELVOY**

I too have ended up in what is invariably called a seedy sauna, which offered kinky services

that the sort of ageing Labour MP whose earthly pleasures we imagine to be two pints of bitter and a packet of pork scratchings turns out to relish body-to-body friction with a sprightly Thai, but so what? Sexy massages are not outside the law. If came trade minister and the DTI anyone got over-excited it would appear to be the police, who battered down the doors with sledgehammers to find out what value Mr Ashton was getting for his money.

Peculiarity is not the same as transgression. Most of us, at some time, do things which would look very odd to other people. To their credit, Labour officials have decided not to get steamed up about Mr Ashton's sauna, although they might not have been so tolerant had he not offered to stand down after the next election anyway.

On more serious resigning matters though, they seem to be in some confusion. Mohammed Sarwar was suspended on suspicion of buying votes in Glasgow, while Fiona Jones in Newark was backed by the party. This turned out to be exactly the wrong way round: Mrs Jones has

been found guilty in court of overspending in her election campaign in Newark and unfit for office, while Mr Sarwar, who was hung out to dry by the party managers, was last week cleared of wrongdoing.

When exactly MPs should resign is an inexact science in which their general standing matters more than what they have done. In November 1947 Hugh Dalton stood down as chancellor because of a hudget leak to the London Evening Star. But the same year, another senior cabinet minister, AV Alexander, had committed a major indiscretion by letting slip that the chancellor would make a speech on suspending the pound's convertibility. Alexander survived; Dalton, hy this stage dispensable to a government seeking

a fresh start, did not. The exact grounds for Peter Mandelson's resignation were unclear was it taking Geoffrey Robinson's home loan? Or negligence in dewas looking into Mr Robinson's affairs? Or the failure to declare the loan on his mortgage form? The real answer is: none of the above. Mr Mandelson resigned because he was shrewd enough about modern politics to know that the appearance of what he had done discredited the Government and that he would have a better chance of reviving a senior political career some day if he fell on his sword at Christmas.

In their evasions, double-dealings and infidelities, politicians are like the rest of us, only more so. It is unreasonable to expect them to uphold different standards to those which apply in the rest of society, and the public is far more tolerant of foibles than the press or the prurient political establishment. Kenneth Starr learnt this the hard way when the nation failed to recoil in horror over Bill



Joe Ashton MP: no need to resign

Sean Dempsey/PA

Clinton's fumblings with Monica, hut recoiled in horror at Mr Starr. John Major made the cardinal mistake of expecting his Tories to be better behaved than the population claring it when Mr Mandelson be- at large. Mr Blair, watching the the European Parliament, often has comedy of errors of David Mellor, pre-election timing, Piers Merchant, determined that when he was in charge, sex wouldn't count as grounds for going. Robin Cook was a beneficiary. But Ron Davies's ad-

ventures on Clapham Common showed how one deception so often entails another, so that by the end it was difficult to tell whether it was Davies's lying or his alleged soliciting that was deemed to be the resigning matter.

If there is a risk in Blairite sexual liberalism, it is that it inclines to make judgments based on palatahility rather than consistency. Heterosexual adultery is an abyss into which many happily married people gaze now and then, whether or not they leap. It is easy to tolerempathise; far easier to cast the first right reasons.

stone at someone whose foibles seem weird to the mainstream. A day after Mr Ashton's headlines

it was revealed that Pauline Green. the leader of the socialist group in her Brussels chauffeur drive from Tim Yeo and finally, with impeccable Brussels to London, while she flies, and boards him in hotels so that she can be driven around in Britain by him when on business. This is the sort of minor lunacy that seems normal to people who have had their standards warped by exposure to so much extravagance that they no longer notice their own.

> Naturally, it did not strike her as an excessive perk. What would? Justifying the unjustifiable is an art in which she has some practice. She refused to back a no-confidence motion in the Commission when the scale of fraud and croneyism in Brussels was exposed, only to join the calls for its resignation when it was clear that Jacques Santer and

his clique were doomed. The trouble with resignations is ate failures in others with which we that they so rarely happen for the

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# French culture is a worldwide asset

Internationale de la

This day is first and foremost an opportunity to take pride in celebrating one of the fundamental elements of our national identity: the French language and culture.

We have 7 million French Canadians in Canada, and hundreds of thousands of other Canadians who are learning French so that they can play a full part in la francophonie of our country.

Today is, therefore, an excellent opportunity to celebrate the wealth and diversity of Canada's francophone communities, communities that have retained their special character through their history, and the manner in which they have chosen to live and flourish in different environments and circumstances.

So today I believe that we to the men and women who have worked hard to build Canada's French-language communities.

I AM pleased to be with uage, which is a fundamental you once again to element of Canada's identity, is celebrate La Journée no longer the responsibility of a single department hut, rather, a responsibility shared by all federal departments. In the cultural field, we have

to continue to build on our Over the years Canada has established institutions that have made a major contribution to the promotion of francophone culture, and the influence of that culture here

and throughout the world. We have only to think of Radio-Canada or the Canada Council and organisations such as Telefilm Canada and the National Film Board. This shows what an asset la francophonie is to Canada.

And its development is opening up an ever-expanding window on the world for Canadians. During this period of globalisation, a time when borders are opening, Canadian francophonie is a major should give a special thought strength for our country, linking us to the francophonie throughout the world.

What is more, Canada was one of the first to associate it-We have ensured that the self-with the international frompromotion of the French lang- cophonie. In 1970 we were a Council.



## **PODIUM**

JEAN CHRETIEN From a speech by the Prime Minister of Canada to mark La Journée Internationale de la Francophonie

founding member of the Cul-tural and Technical Co-operation Agency. We have since cootinued to play a primary role in the organisation.

More recently, we supported efforts to give the international francophonie a wider political mandate. This mandate is very much in line with Canada's concerns, particularly at a time when we have a seat on the UN Security

uses on promoting peace by preventing and resolving conflicts, promoting human rights and supporting the process of democratisation. This component of the activities pursued by the international francophonie is a useful and relevant one. The organisation has, so

far, led nine observation missions, including one joint mission with the United Nations. Canada is proud of its participation in these initiatives, which enable us to continue to advance our priorities on the international scene.

Our membership in this network of 52 countries and governments that share the French language also brings other benefits. In September the city of

Moncton, New Brunswick, will have the privilege of hosting the Sommet de la Francophonie. The agenda for the summit will be very diverse. We will have an opportunity to discuss issues relating to youth, new technologies, culture, education and the economy.

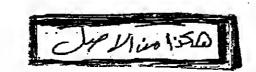
We hope that the summit will enable us to promote a number of issues that affect not Francophonie,

The extended mandate foc- only Canadians but people throughout the world. Thus, we want to work with our Summit partners to find ways to promote and ensure the safety of young people in countries wracked by armed conflict. Canada's objective is to ensure that these youths can grow up in an environment that meets their needs and fosters their

> We also wish to pursue our efforts to promote cultural diversity. These efforts are starting to bear fruit. And the memher countries of la francophonie contributed to this success.

The challenge facing the heads of state meeting in Moncton will be therefore to reaffirm their determination to become involved in issues that go beyond the geographical boundaries of la francophonie and which affect the international community as a whole.

With a few months to go before the summit, we are celebrating today the last Journée Internationale de la Francophonie hefore the new millennium. I wish you all an excellent Journée Internationale de la



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# Lies, deceit and betrayal



ROBERT FISK

We cry for the Kosovo Albanians; perhaps we even love them. But we will not die for them

ONCE UPON a time - last week, in fact - we went to war to save the Kosovo Albanians. After months of negotiating and a thousand broken promises, Nato's patience was exhausted. It was time to teach the Scills a lesson and - dare we sug-gest it - revenge ourselves on Slo-bodan Milosovic, not just for Kosovo, but for the years of Western humiliation in Bosnia. But it was for the Kosovars, the 90-per-cent Muslim population of Serbia's Kosovo province, that we would draw the sword.

And our war is turning into disaster. The moment Nato's bombs and missiles began to fall, the Serbs struck ruthlessly against the Albanians of Kosovo.

"They are being helped by Nato and Nato is our enemy and now the Albanians are calling up Nato's air strikes," a young Serb official snapped angrily at me on Monday. The separatist Kosovars - from being merely recalcitrant or, at worst, "terrorists" - have now becerne fifth columnists. And fifth continue are always destroyed by occupying armies.

Thus has come about what Nato now admits to be the greatest humanitarian crisis since the Second World War. And already we are being deceitful to both the victims and the aggressors.

Within two days of the first air

strikes - when it became clear that

the Serbs were "cleansing" their way through Kosovo; when the first 20,000 refugees washed up on the frontiers of Macedonia and Albania President Clinton, the architect (along with Richard Holbrooke) of this particular adventure, made an ishing statement. He said that the bloodshed would have been "even worse" if Nato had not intervened. And he assured the American people that US troops would only te sent into Kosovo in a peace-

keeping role. How happy President Milosovic must have been to hear that. Already, Clinton was making excuses for Nato's air raids - and then promising that ground troops would never be sent to fight Serbian forces

So Milosevic's army pressed on eagerly. And when the next flood of Kosovars staggered into Macedonia with their stories of summary exe-



Ethnic Albanian refugees walk towards the northern Albanian town of Kukes after being forced by Serb forces to leave their homes in Kosovo

cutions and house-burning, we were told yet again that things would have been worse without the air raids. Once Nato admitted that 500,000 Kosovars had been displaced, this lie was mercifully forgotten. Instead, the air raids would be increased, the rules of engagement broadened, in order to end Serbia's "scorching" of Kosovo'a earth. The fruits of war had now become the reason for its enlargement.

A terrible formula has now emerged, one that the Kosovo Albanian leadership is only beginning to understand. We in the West cared so much for their people's suffering that we went to war to end their. grief and bring them peace. But we would not risk the life of a single soldier to do this.

The Kaiser's policy - that the Balkans were not worth the life of a single Prussian grenadier - has been adopted to the letter by Nato. Even as distraught women were entering Skopje with tales of the execution of intellectuals in Pristina, a British officer vouchsafed the opinion in Macedonia that "we are here simply to implement a peace agreement and that's what we will do, if [sic] and when we get the chance." So, more comfort for President

clear Nato - supposedly the iron shield of Western democracy in the event of a Soviet invasion of Western Europe - cannot even defeat Serbia. The men who were trained to defend the Fulder Gap against Moscow's legions are going to sit it out in the hills of Macedonia - to act as peacekeepers "when

they get the chance". We cry for the Kosovo Albanians. Perhaps we even love them. But we will not die for them.

Milosevic, However reasonable this

sounds in Washington and Lon-

don, the message for the Serbs is

Instead, we seek more monsters to justify our continued war. George Robertson, our beloved Defence Secretary, has reintroduced the world to the arch-villain Arkan. "ethnic cleanser" por excellence in

Indeed, Arkan is an indicted war criminal. Mr Robertson spent some time dwelling upon the deeds of this "outrageous thug". But the fact is that Arkan's cruelty was made manifest in Bosnia, not in Kosovo. There is no evidence - so far - that his "Tigers" are murdering Albanians in Kosovo.

President Clinton told us, too, that if we didn't continue the war

against Serbia, then we would see repeated "what happened in Bosnia"

The West has every reason to feel humiliated by its performance in the face of evil in Bosnia. And to blame Mr Milosevic as one of those who shamed us - and let's not muddy the waters by remembering the ruthless Franjo Tudiman's "cleansing" of 170,000 Serbs from Krajina - is fair enough. But to go to war to avenge ourselves for the Bosnian war was folly. And it is becoming ever more clear that this is partly what Nato's first-ever conflict is about. It is about getting our own back.

Meanwhile, we are enduring the usual half-truths. Before America bombed Libya in 1986 and Iraq in 1991, Washington insisted that it had no argument with the "Libyan/Iraqi people". President Clinton said the same after he bombed Afrikanistan and Sudan last year.

And sure enough, just three days ago, the Americans - joined this time by the British - repeated the same old lament. We had nothing against the Serbian people. It was just "Milosevic's murder machine" that we hated. But, again, our hatred was not enough to die for. Of course, Nato itself cannot be

humiliated on the eve of its 50th hirthday. This was one of the raisons d'être of this war at the weekend. Presumably, we would have been less keen to bomb Serbia if it were the 49th hirthday or the 51st birthday...

The other is to pay a humble visit

to the Secretary General of that poor

bia has promised to fight an invader,

not slink away as Iraq did after the

Gulf conflict. If Nato troops were to

get involved in a fire-fight in Kosovo,

it would betray every promise that

Clinton made to the Americans.

Bodies would probably come home

in coffins. But the promise to the

Kosovo Albardans would have been

The second would be an experi-

ence deeply humbling to all the arm-

chair warriors who have been

preaching the morality of war to us

Yes, of course, President Milo-

sevic may capitulate. Or he may be

overthrown. But if he does not give

up, Nato commanders may have to

decide whether to put their soldiers'

lives on the line for the policies of

their governments, or hand the

cause of peace in Europe to the UN.

the UN option. Meanwhile, the

Kosovo Albanians are the ones who

have chiefly been doing the dying

over the past week. No doubt the

survivors will thank us for our

sympathy.

Sane men would probably go for

over the past few days.

The first would be costly - Ser-

old donkey the United Nations.

There is, needless to say, one very clear way that Nato could show its teeth - by arresting two Serb warlords even more infamous than Arkan: General Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadjic.

How strange that Mr Robertson didn't mention those two indicted war criminals last week. Why didn't he? Because he forgot? Or because Mladic and Karadiic happen to reside in Bosnia, in a district controlled by the very Nato troops whose reputation must be defended by going to war with Serbia?

Why doesn't Mr Robertson order their immediate arrest? Is it because such arrests might be resisted and Nato lives lost?

In the next few days, two possible scenarios are likely to present themselves to President Clinton and Tony Blair (and also, I suppose, to Mr Cook).

One will be to grit their teeth and go for the kind of baven created for the Kurds in northern Iraq in 1991.

#### OF REPLY TIM

RIGHT

SOUTHWELL



The editor of Loaded' responds to Deborah Orr's article criticising men's magazines

DEBORAH ORR is 359 years old and is from another planet. She appears guilty of gross ignorance in accusing Loaded of publishing yards of "sexist jokes." It's an old trick but still popular among the so-called broadsheet literati. The trick is simple: take a contentious issue (ie "How women appearing in states of undress in magazines encourages evil men to perform hideous sex crimes on innocent women and children"), then make illinformed swipes at Loaded to validate the article's existence.

We can hardly deny that we print pictures of beautiful women in sexy poses, but the suggestion that there is some kind of link between the existence of Loaded and a 10year-old girl phoning Childline because she's pregnant, is preposterous.

Evil people do evil things to innocent people not because of something they've seen in a magazine but because their pathetic, Meccano-like brains have, for some reason of genetic malfunction, decided that it's time for them to do something bad to someone.

. The assertion that Loaded is full of "sexist jokes" is utterly insulting not just to us at the magazine but also to our million readers. We're far more likely to fill the magazine with self-effacing jokes about men. The very notion that there are men out there who act boorishly and think it's cool to pinch a young lady's behind without her permission is as odious to us as it is to women.

Loaded features brilliantly written articles on Don King, Russia's heroin problem, Robert Cartyle, treasure-hunting in the Guatemalan jungle and the Dice Man. Does that sound like a magazine obsessed with naked female flesh? Please read Loaded. Or, to put it in another way, get with it, Grandma.

The current issue of

# Pitiless portrayal of a President

IN THE days when the White House was graced by Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a well-educated young American journalist was assigned to Washington. He asked the great Scots expert on American politics, DW Brogan, what he should read before covering the White House. "Saint-Simon." said the great man

without hesitation. "The 19th-century founder of French socialism?" asked the young journalist. "No", said Brogan, "the author of the memoirs of the court of Louis XIV."

The White House is a court. Small, cramped and crowded, it is the residence of an elected monarch and his family as well as the headquarters of a frenetic, yet strangely unstructured bureaucracy. George Stephanopoulos, one of President and Mrs Clinton's closest aides since the 1992 campaign,



TUESDAY POEM

POPPIES

BY JUDY GAHAGAN

In the lower private garden hedged-off

for the university pharmacists

there is an inferno of big poppies

apparently out of control like arson;

of their Lucifer and their wickedness.

Interrogation. The soft sift of judgement.

The very air is full of sharp knives.

Eye-level weeds with ball and spike.

The university pharmacists have gone

leaving parched days, a conflagration,

to the mirthless disillusioned gardener.

Our poems today and tomorrow come from 'Crossing No-Man's

Land' by Judy Gahagan, published at £6.95 by Flambard Press.

Stable Cattage, East Fourstones, Hexham NE47 50X

the light comes from below, orange eyes

**TUESDAY BOOK** 

ALL TOO HUMAN: A POLITICAL EDUCATION BY GÉORGE STEPHANOPOULOS. HUTCHINSON. £17.99

House as brilliantly as any other memoir of the past 40 years. Just as dukes, Jesuits and mis-

tresses worked themselves into lathers of jealous insecurity about their status at Versailles, Stephanopoulos recalls how he agonised over a suspected coldness in the First Lady's greeting, or exclusion from a strategy meeting. No courtier, banned from the royal presence in the ruelle behind his master's bed or refused the privilege

has captured this aspect of the White of passing the royal periwig, suffered more than George, who was denied access to the Oval Office or a seat on Air Force One.

> Almost equally strange is the abject deference of the White House aide. supposedly armed with the thunderbolts of the All-Powerful to the harons of the media. Stephanopoulos muses penitentially for pages over whether he was right to talk as much as he did to Bob Woodward, once the hero of between those who wanted him to Watergate, now The Washington Post's specialist in "I was under the bed" reconstructions.

. Most of Clinton's aides had no career ahead of them unless they could sell their services as political consultants or negotiate a transfer to solution). The impression he leaves is that they were understandably more deferential to any reporter from the alone to a network anchor or talk-show host than to a mere senator or congressman.

Not that Stephanopoulos is a cynic or a careerist. The son of a Greek Orthodox priest and grandson of a Greek immigrant, he holds dear the or move his price upward: Old Democrat faith. His characterisations, of Bill and Hillary Clinton, Al Gore and others, are subtle and nuanced. Only one portrait drips with to his valet. He is equally severe on venom and contempt: that of Dick himself. His political ideals, he hopes, Morris, the Republican polister and operator who replaced him for a while in Clinton's good graces.

It is plain that, at least for Stephanopoulos and his friends, there to the president and recognition by the



George Stephanopoulos taking questions

cling to the good old Democratic. liberal cause, and those who wanted him to position himself in the centre and bow to what seemed - in 1994 and 1995 - the inexorable rise of conservative sentiment. It is not, in other words, that the gyrations and mantelevision (Stephanopoulos's own ocuvres of the White House court are devoid of political content Rather that playing his own hand almost in isolation from a Congress where Post or The New York Times, let power is increasingly gathering, a president has to be obsessed with "the numbers" - the rating he is given by the media. He trades his political portfolio in the market of Washington politics, and only the media pundits can say how much capital he has left

Stephanopoulos's portrait of the Clintons is affectionate, but pitying and pitiless. As he says, no man is a hero are unchanged. But he acknowledges that they have had to take second place to the hectic scuffling of a bourse where success is measured in access was an ideological battle in the White media. Small wonder that a decent,

Jeff Christensen highly intelligent man who sees his House for Bill Clinton's political soul. ideals weighed in the scales against tacky cynicism and self-interested scheming ends up in therapy.

What does George Stephanopoulos have to tell us about the defining tragicomedy of the Lewinsky affair? Not much. He admits to having been the recipient of a tentative pass from the world's most famous woman himself Luckily for him, his secretary barred her way whenever Monica tried to tempt him with unsolicited cups of double-tall latte.

But it had fallen to George to handle the bimbo eruptions in Clinton's 1992 campaign. He had an uncomfortable feeling that, if he hadn't exactly been lied to, he had been used; and if he hadn't exactly lied to the reporters on Clinton's behalf, well, they had been used, too.

So, half-free from the silken chains of loyalty and affection after he left the White House, he spoke out courageously about what Clinton ought to say and do. Now that impeachment is over he will have done himself no great good. He has the consolation that he has woven his own frustrations into a small, sad political classic.

GODFREY HODGSON



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# Gerhard Herzberg

GERHARD HERZBERG was the pre- da's "science base" in a way that its eminent molecular spectroscopist of his generation.

physics through the advent of wavemechanical quantum-theory in the 1920s, a development he witnessed directly during his formative years as a student. It was also a period that saw the essentially complete reduction of macroscopic physical chemistry, and hence in principle of the whole of chemistry, to microscopic chemical physics, for which wave-mechanics provides a particularly essential foundation. Much of the experimental basis of this reduction came through spectroscopy.

Herzberg was born in Hamburg on Christmas Day 1904 into a middle-class family having little academic background. Interest in astronomy, atomic and molecular physics was aroused by his teachers in secondary school and he went on to study technical physics at the Technische Hochschule in Darmstadt. During his pre-doctoral studies he quickly revealed exceptional talents, particularly in spectroscopy, and a post-doctoral period at Göttingen and Bristol (1928-30) brought him into contact with many of the great names in the new physics. There he also met and married Luise Oettinger, a student of physics at Frankfurt, who became herself a highly respected spectroscopist.

His first independent post was as Privatdozent in spectroscopy at Darmstadt. But, informed in 1934 that, married to a wife of Jewish origins, he could not continue to teach students, he had to contemplate emigration. One of the leading molecular physicists at the age of 30, he realised he would soon be without a job as well as without a country. Openings were few but the intervention of a postgraduate student, John Spinks, from the University of Saskatchewan, led to an offer by its President, W.C. Murray, of a Research Professorship there.

As Herzberg recalled, From Chicago ... we travelled by train via Minneapolis, Winnipeg and Regina and finally to Saskatoon. On travelling between Winnipeg and Saskatoon, we became increasingly worried because the train seemed to stop at places that had only a few houses, and we were wondering what Saskatoon would be like. We were pleasantly surprised.

So began 10 highly productive and happy years and a lasting attachment to Canada.

Facilities at Saskatoon were however limited and the teaching load considerable. Herzberg therefore accepted an invitation in 1945 to join the staff of the University of Chicago's Yerkes Observatory. The atresearch and in a closer association with his first love, astronomy. Life in the new surroundings was, however, not without problems. Rescue came soon, in an invitation to return to Canada as Director of the Division of Physics of the National Research Council in Ottawa, in 1948. There he was to remain for the rest of his life and to create his greatest achievement, the laboratories of its spectroscopy section - among the world's "Grand Labs" in physics.

Traditionally, NRC's role had been to provide federal support for applied research in infrastructural areas such as building, telecommunications, roads, agriculture and fisheries. It also maintained the national standards laboratory. Largely through the foresight of E.W.R. Steacie, Director of its Division of Chemistry, NRC's post-war remit was widened to include areas of then what we would now call Canauniversities could then not yet do.

The Division of Physics was His career spanned the half- therefore assured the long-term recentury following the revolution of sources needed to equip and operate the new laboratories. Herzberg followed Steacie in a departure from what might have been the conventional model of staffing in a governmental institution. The number of permanent staff was small, typically around half a dozen. The list of appointments made during his tenure of the Directorship, between 1948 and 1969, gives only 12 names. They were chosen to lead the different but still independent specialities within the broad church that spectroscopy had become, each largely free to pursue his own direction.

The main body of scientific workers lay in a stream of post-doctoral research fellows, appointed and funded by NRC for periods up to two years and usually assigned to work with a member of the permanent ataff - much as postgraduates work in universities. The success of such arrangements depends on the ability to attract good people, and of this there was never any question. The name of Herzberg, "GH" as he was now affectionately known, was an irresistible draw world-wide. Although his personal research, undiminished in vigour and productivity, had become a minor element in the total output, his authority, guidance and enthusiastic support continued to provide a dominant coherence to all that went on. His personal example set the standards, especial-

The cry 'Look it up in Herzberg' will resound in laboratories as long as molecular spectroscopy is practised

ly in the publications that appeared under the laboratory's name.

Some 80 post-docs passed

through in the years 1948-69. Many from abroad remained in Canada, fulfilling one of the founders' hopes. Many went on to distinguished careers in universities, the public service or in science-based industries. Besides Herzberg himself, seven former post-docs or staff-members became Fellows of the Royal Society. To the lists must be added the many spectroscopists of all levels of setraction lay in the emphasis on niority and from all over the world who were welcomed as visitors for durations of weeks or months, to learn or to use the laboratories' equipment so generously put at their disposal. Many analyses in distant labs were made on spectra taken in Ottawa. Finally, Herzberg's success would not have been possible without the support of two people who joined him at the outset: Alex Douglas, his former graduate stu-dent at Saskatoon, and Jack Shoosmith, his technical assistant. formerly at King's College London.

Spectroscopy is a technique. It analyses the radiation absorbed and emitted by atoms and molecules. It is through their spectra that these reveal themselves to us: their electronic and geometric structures, their internal dynamics, the strengths of their bonds and their chemical interconversions. Spectroscopy gives us our main, and often only, means "oure" scientific research, to streng- of access to those physical domains of space and time, way outside the bounds of direct human experience, in which atoms and molecules operate. Therein lies its fascination. Molecular structures take us to small distances - millionths of a millimetre. Molecular astrophysics takes us into the vast distance of outer space. And primary chemical reactions take us into regimes of brief instants in which a microsecond can be a long, long time.

Herzberg's explorations of all of these domains were numerous, diverse and profound. He was above all an experimentalist, drawing on theory as needed but taking it largely as developed by others.

His interests fall into several classes. One lifelong interest lay in the study of the electronic structures of diatomic molecules. Their numerous electronic states occur in sets whose patterns have led to the recognition of an electronic shellstructure of chemical bonding, a wholly quantum-mechanical, nonclassical phenomenon generating the laws of valency familiar to all secondary-school students of chemistry, in a way analogous to the shell-structure of atoms that generates the chemist's periodic table of the elements.

The concept of antibonding electrons first introduced as such by Herzberg is now also a part of A-level chemistry. Atoms of all the elements will intercombine to form diatomic molecules in at least one bound electronic state, which has to live only long enough to emit a spectrum, a fraction of a microsecond. Typical sources are electric discharges through gases and thus, as an example, the known bound states of diatomic helium, the quintessentially inert monatomic element, long outnumbered those of diatomic hydrogen, the prototype of chemical binding.

Herzberg's most seminal contribution lies however in the monumental review of the field, in his book Spectra of Diatomic Molecules, the second edition of which (1950) is definitive and timeless.

In astrophysical spectroscopy, Herzberg's most abiding interest, the problem is often to identify an unknown molecular species responsible for a known stellar or interstellar spectrum, by reproducing the stellar spectrum in a terrestrial source. Successes include the detection of CH+ in interstellar space and triatomic carbon, C<sub>3</sub>, in the tails of comets. The most heroic, however, was perhaps the identification of molecular hydrogen in the atmospheres of Jupiter, Neptune and Uranus by its weak absorption-lines in the infra-red, reproduced in the labsorbing-path of 5km through cooled, compressed gaseous hydrogen.

The third major interest lay in attempts to extend the study of electronic structure to molecules of first to be thus fully analysed. more than two atoms. An immediate problem is that most small, chemically stable polyatomic molecules have closed-shell configurations and are colourless. Their excited electronic states he at high energies and are so unstable that they do not live long enough to emit radiation. Their absorption-spectra are often also diffuse. Open-shell molecules, in contrast, are usually coloured in the visible or near ultraviolet and their absorption-spectra are sharp. The largest accessible class of such molecules are the chemist's free radicals, long postulated as short-lived, highly reactive intermediates in many chemical processes but barely characterised

in structural detail The breakthrough came with the invention of flash-photolysis, first ex-



Cambridge in the late 1940s and then developed independently by Herzberg and D.A. Ramsay who joined him from the Chemistry Division at NRC in 1949. A gas of stable molecules such as ammonia, NH3 is subjected to an intense flash of ultraviolet light for a period of microseconds. It decomposes into the radical NH2 and atomic hydrogen, oratory in an absorption-cell some H. After a short delay a second short Herzberg's days, have changed the 20m long fitted with internal mirrors flash of white light probes the directions of enquiry. giving with 250 traversals an ab- reaction-vessel before the radicals collisions and the emergent probe be his trilogy of monographs, Mollight carries their absorption spec-

> Many others followed, including those of HCO, HNO, BH, and No, and it seems ironic that more is known about excited states of free radicals than of stable molecules. But the crowning triumph was in obtaining the spectra of the methyl radical, CH<sub>S</sub> (1956) and, finally, after 17 years of effort, of the methylene radical, CH<sub>2</sub> (1969), subsequently in both of its electronic isomers, triplet and singlet. The spectra were taken by Jack Shoosmith

> For these explorations of free radicals, Herzberg's probably most notable achievements, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1971.

> Herzberg's life was rich and influential. What endures? In the short term, the respect and affectionate memories in the minds of all who knew him - colleagues, collab-

modesty, intellectual stimulation, generosity and warm friendship. In the medium term, some of his spectroscopic triumphs and the traditions in the lab he founded, perhaps. But spectroscopy has moved on, and the development of new technologies such as lasers, combined with the immensely powerful computational facilities we now have, unknown in

The foundatious remain, ecular Spectra and Molecular trum. The spectrum of NH<sub>2</sub> was the Structure, I-III, published between 1939 and 1966. The cry "Look it up in Herzherg" will resound in laboratories as long as molecular spectroscopy is practised.

JOHN CALLOMON

The field of spectroscopy has always seemed to me to be much freer from the competitive pressures that tend to afflict many other areas of research, writes Sir Harold Kroto. I think this is because two founding fathers of the field were real gentlemen and their general attitude had a massive influence both intellectually and ethically on the way others in the field worked. One was E. Bright Wilson of Harvard, who died in 1989, and the other was Gerhard Herzberg

The exciting and open atmosphere that pervaded molecular

ence on their numerous students and collaborators.

As a young chemistry student who had, almost overnight, fallen in love with spectroscopy. I suddenly became acquainted with real spectroscopy when I found a book in a local bookshop. It was an amazing book, beautifully bound in a yellowygolden cloth-bound cover. The title was emblazoned in gold letters on the spine, The Spectra of Diatomic Molecules, by Gerhard Herzberg. have had time to decay by reactive er, and GH's lasting monument will It was the first in what was to become the famous series Molecular Spectra and Molecular Structure.

> I understood almost nothing of the text but it was illustrated with beautiful reproductions of spectra. They showed elegant patterns of lines that tell us that molecules could count accurately; and this captured my imagination. These patterms were the key to understanding molecules: their atomic composition, their structures and many other properties, all to be divined by careful analysis of their colours.

In spectroscopy was to be found the most perfect and particularly the most direct pictorial and quantitative expression of quantum-theory. This perhaps indicates why I and many of my spectroscopic colleagues are so enamoured of the field. I am sure that it was this perfection to which we became addicted, and perhaps the greatest addict was GH himself - the father of highresolution molecular spectroscopy. 3 March 1999.

In 1964, when I received my PhD. an invitation to come to Ottawa - the Mecca of molecular spectroscopy, was irresistible. GH had by them as: sembled an all-star team of senior scientists: Alec Douglas, Cec Costain, Don Ramssy, Boris Stoichelf all outstanding in their own right. I had met GH once before at a conference, in 1963, but in Ottawa I quickly came to know him on a more personal level. He always seemed larger than life, with a strong, distinctive hut friendly personality even though he was physically quite small.

GH's features were striking his voice deep and vibrant and his perfect spoken English appeared, to me, to be a combination of German precision in delivery but without accent. He was always approachable and keeo to discuss all manner of problems. Furthermore, he exuded an enthusiasm that immediately made one feel a valued member of the law oratory. The ease with which I was able to communicate with the other senior scientists and my peers was a key part of my education and came from the example he set.

Post-docs enjoyed significant freedom to pursue independent research. In such cases their results would be published independently although the post-docs might be working on other projects with supervisors. But GH personally read all manuscripts produced by the . group and went through them meticulously: they had to be up to standard - his standard!

One day I made some quite unexpected discoveries of new spectroscopic features belonging to a species that GH had previously studied himself. I saw that he was just as excited as I was over the new findings. He was particularly kind to '1 young scientists.

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In later years I visited NRC fairly regularly and found that as GH turned successively 70, then 80 and then even 90, he never lost the almost boyish passion for trying to unravel the puzzles that molecules leave buried in the complex spectroscopic patterns they create when they interact with light.

Perhaps no incident sums up GH's personality in my memory better than the time I went to see him after he had read through the manuscript of my first successful independent investigation. It was a study of which I was most proud and he praised my work and the written account. However, he felt I should give somewhat more credit to two others who had observed the same is features previously but had not been able to assign them correctly. GH pointed out that the previous kers could not in fact have correctly assigned the features because they had only a small "pocket" spectrometer whereas I had the best equipment in the world at my disposal. It was a lesson in magnanimity that I have never forgotten.

Gerhard Herzberg, molecular physicist born Hamburg, Germany 25 December 1904; Privatdozent, Technische Hochschule, Darmstadt 1930-35; Research Professor, University of Saskatchewan 1935-45; FRSC 1939; Professor of Spectroscopy, Yerkes Observatary of the University of Chicago 1945-18; Director, Division of Physics, National Research Council of Canada 1949-69, Distinguished Research Scientist 1969-95 (Emeritus); FRS 1951; CC (Canada) 1968, PC (Canada) 1992; Nobel Prize for Chemistry 1971; married 1929 Luise Oettinger (died 1971; one son, one daughter), 1972 Monika Tenthoff; died Ottawa, Ontario

## Ernest Gold

THE COMPOSER Ernest Gold'a his work earned great respect and ing an engrossing B-movie thriller soaring score for Exodus, Otto Prehe was particularly effective in his at Universal, Smooth as Silk (1946), minger's epic film about the for-mation of the state of Israel, won him the 1960 Academy Award as well as two Grammys. The stately main theme also became a hit for such pop stars as Pat Boone, reaching second place on the popular music charts - to the surprise of the composer, who considered the theme "too serious and too long-hair for popular appeal".

Gold's other scores included Sam Peckinpah's Cross of Iron, and many Stanley Kramer productions, among them The Defiant Ones, Ship of Fools and Judgment at Nuremberg. He was Oscar-nominated for both hest score and best song for Kramer's It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mod World, and received further nominations for On the Beach and The Secret of Santa Vittoria.

The son of a lawyer who played the violin, Gold was born in Vienna in 1921, and like two other Viennese composers who went on to Hollywood fame, Max Steiner and Erich Wolfgang Korngold, he was a child prodigy. Gold's achievements could greatest of screen composers, but Other minor films followed, includ- folksong "Waltzing Matilda" in what Hymn of the Republic" in a score effective use of folk music.

he was particularly effective in his interpolation of traditional and folk music into symphonic scores.

He began studying violin and piano at the age of six, started composing two years later and at the age of 13 wrote a full-length opera. "My parents felt that being a composer was just a childish dream," he said. "They felt that most composers seemed destined to live and die in poverty, but I felt it was just a question of being discovered." He studied at the State Academy

of Music in Vienna hut in 1938, with the Nazis taking over Austria, his family fled to the United States, where Gold's first symphony was performed and broadcast by the NBC Orchestra in 1939. He also started writing popular songs, and one of them, "Private Makes Perfect", spent 17 weeks on the hit parade. The singer Kate Smith, noted for patriotic material, had a hit with Gold's "They Started Something"

during the Second World War. In 1945 Gold moved to Hollywood with a letter of introduction to Columbia Pictures, who signed him not be said to match those of his two to write the score for a 60-minute compatriots, who figure among the melodrama. Girl of the Limberlost.

but his first major opportunity came when Stanley Kramer hired him to orchestrate George Antheil's music for Nat as a Stranger (1955). He then conducted and orchestrated both Antheil's score for the Kramer epic The Pride and the Passion (1957) and Matty Maineck's score for Billy Wilder's superb transcription of the Agatha Christie play Witness for the Prosecution (1957). The following year he was given

his first chance to compose the score of an important film, the screen version of Diana Bartymore's biography Too Much, Too Soon (1958). The film was not successful but Gold's music was described by Variety as a "highlight" and the soundtrack recording was to have a longer life than the film itself.

his powerful and critically acclaimed story of racial tensions, The Defiant Ones (1958), the first of Kramer's The New York Times called "a fine films for which Gold provided music. For Kramer's On the Beach (1959), based on Nevil Shute's Australianset story about mankind's annihilation due to radioactive fall-out, Gold evolution, used rousing numbers like Russian front in 1943, Cross of made telling use of variations on the "Old Time Religion" and "Battle Iron (1977), in which he again made



Kramer then asked Gold to score Gold: winner of an Oscar for his score for Exodus, 1960

musical score", and for Inherit the Wind (1960), inspired by the 1925 trial of a Tennessee teacher who dared to teach Darwin's theory of

credited with giving the long film added excitement

But it was Preminger's three and a-half-hour epic Exodus (1960) that brought the composer his greatest fame. Variety reported: "Ernest Gold's score is a strong plus factor and through its use of minor chords provides a flavoursome blending of ancient Hebrew strains with the modern surge of a people on the march." The haunting title theme became a popular hit, as did Gold's lilting title song for the comedy It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World (1963), with lyrics by Mack David.

For Kramer's Judgment at Nuremberg (1961), Gold's score in-cluded a short overture that effectively set the mood for the powerful experience to come, and his expressive and moving music for Kramer's production A Child is Waiting (1963), directed by John Cassavetes and dealing with mentally retarded children, was described by Variety as "a vital factor".

Notable among Gold's later scores was his rousing music for Peckinpah's uncompromising picture of Germans fighting on the Russian front in 1943, Cross of

Gold once described his views on soundtrack scores:

What is visible should not be duplicatwhat is visule should not be displicated in the soundtrack. Music can demonstrate inner processes taking place in the characters, elucidate relations between them and – most importantly – throw its weight with or against a character in order to sway the point of equilibrium of a scene.

He continued to write symphonic and chamber works along with his film scores and in 1968 wrote a Broadway musical, I'm Solomon, with lyrics by Anne Croswell. Based on an Israeli comedy, King Solomon and the Cobbler, and starring the comedian Dick Shawn, it ran for only seven performances. Gold later commented

From the point of view of a Broadway composer, the most nonsensical practice is that of casting people in musicals who are unable to sing. The hapless composer and lyricist are forced to throw out good material that had been created over a fairly extended length of time and must try to come up with quick solutions that must cover for the inadequacies in the singing realm.

The theatre historian Ken Mandelbaum later wrote that the show had "a couple of nice songs and an extremely silly book".

asked to write the score for a musi- March 1999

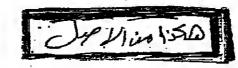
cal version of Exodus produced three years later. Entitled Ari, it featured among its attractions a "concentration camp ballet" and closed after 19 performances.

Gold's first wife was Marni Nixon a singer famous for her off-screen dubbing of such stars as Deborah Kerr, Natalie Wood and Audrey Hepburn; his second wife, Jan Keller, survives him.

At one time the music director of the Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra, Gold had in recent years founded the Los Angeles Senior Citizens Orchestra, for whom he was principal conductor. Acknowledging that many artists abandon their goals, he stated, "I know it's easy to grow discouraged. Somehow I was lucky enough to escape that popular affliction. Even as a child I was carried along by the convictions that I'd be successful in a musical career."

TOM VALLANCE

Ernest Gold, film composer: born Vienna 13 July 1921; married first Marni Nixon (one son, two daughters; marriage dissolved), second Jan Keller (one stepson); died Gold was fortunate in not being Santa Monica, California 17



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## Vera Delf

VERA DELF, painter and peripatetic protester, was one of those singular Edwardian women who make one wonder why the women's movement took so long

Independent to the point of arrogance, she somehow managed to enche jeveryone with whom she came in contact. Saving the social reformer Barbara Wootton from serious injury by scalding in China in the 1970s, facing down the French police in Paris in 1968, or creating a near mutiny in the British army in India, she had a knack of being where the action was and the charm to carry off the complications that usually resulted from her single-minded

application of principle to action.

Whether playing badminton in the rain with her grandchildren or terrorising the security men of the American Air Force she always acted with dedi-cated conviction. "She showed," wrote Marjorie Parker, "a relish in swimming against the conventional tide. Yet she had so much warmth and charm that even those who profoundly disagreed with her cherished her friendship".

Born Vera Hart to a fourth-generation colonial family in Cawnpore, India, in which did not make for radicalism. Her earliest letters show this clearly. "I don't know why the Indians want us out of the country," she once wrote, "Tve never seen anybody being beastly to the Indians." This changed quickly and the children of old India hands still speak fearfully of the remonstrations she visited on colonial wives caught being unpleasant to her beloved Indian friends.

In 1924 she attended Glasgow Art School for a year but typically had littie patience with the academic methods of the time. She became a non-academic painter of fresh, direct portraits. Her ability to capture likeness had been evident at an early age and her confidence and economy of line put her work, especially of children, much in demand.

Her approach to painting was at one with her approach to life and politics. Lingient research or mastery of detail never interested her. It was the broad brush and the immediate impact that characterised both her life and her painting. Her friend Jill Tweedie was once heard to remark that Delf "could not be bothered with anything more complicated than what she already knew". In most things she had both the penetration and the limitations of the autodidact.

Despite a stern parental injunction against shipboard romances and "joining the bridge-playing clique", she typically ignored their warnings enough on a journey from England to India to fall in love with an army officer. Charles Delf then neglected to ask his superior for permission to marry. Taken to task, he told his commanding officer that it was none of his business. Vera had found a soulmate. She did however take heed of the bridge warning and this saved her artly officer's wife - "to my children's benefit", she frequently announced.

Her unshakeable conviction of her own rightness caused some problems. At one point during a dysentery epidemic in India she embarked on a campaign to clean up the British military kitchens. Her daughter Deborah Ardizzone remembers that the ominous



at Greenham Common

sound of her approaching pony and trap signalled a bout of feverish fly-swatting audible a quarter of a mile away.

"Properly fed soldiers are less vulnerable to infection," she announced as she replaced much of the normal stodge with chilled consommé, salads and fresh fruit. Nothing more substantial was offered and soldiers who had survived with relative equanimity the worst theatres of the Second World War revolted. It took all Brigadier Delf's diplomacy to avert a serious mutiny and both army and India Office breathed a sigh of relief when Vera Delf departed for

But army conventions were never

enough to alienate the more Neanderthal elements of Suffolk's deep blue county set-where the Delfs went to live after returning from India. They had expected to find natural allies in Brigadier and Mrs Delf. She spent a brief spell as a prospective Liberal candidate but resigned with a typically coruscating letter attacking the local party organisation and the "swamp Tory tendencies of its members", as she put it.

However her letters of the time show an acute awareness that the day of the amateur MP had already ended and that her own impatience with detail made her unfit for the work of the post-war House. Her attention turned to single-issue safe in her vicinity. Finding that troop-ship conditions had resulted in more fly could be more effective. Inevitably

Her husband the Brigadier drew the line at the Aldermaston March. 'But you meet such a nice class of person on it,' she said

than 50 women to a bathroom she these included CND and Vietnam, but grandly commandeered one near her as with many far younger her mind was that was, she declared, "always empty". She handed it over to the beterogeneous collection of army wives of all ranks. It but of committees meeting round her turned out to belong to the Officer Comto keep the women out but Delf simply swept past with her friends. Faced with increasing numbers of unbathed angry women and children the O/C succumbed and gave up for the duration of the voyage. It was her first taste of direct action success and she relished it hugely.

Like her husband she began political life as a Liberal voter. This in itself was from London found themselves unwill-

focused by Suez, Hungary and Sharpeville. Her home in Yoxford became a hubgigantic kitchen table, arguing cor upset what she regarded as the American occupation force in East Anglia.

Dr Joan McMichael (of Medical Aid for Vietnam), Hilda Bernstein (antiapartheid) and Tony Parker (pacifist and writer) were frequent visitors. Surprised American tourists invited back for the special coffee Delf had sent up

ing recipients of lectures on their country's foreign policy. She convinced everyone that she mattered.

Her opposition to nuclear power stations brought the manager of nearby Sizewell A to her home in a fruitless attempt to convince her that nuclear power was safe. The American ambassador wrote her an apology for the hate mail she received following publication of one of her letters in The New York Times.

Her letter writing was legendary -she was the Keith Flett of her day, pouring out a constant stream of letters to the world's English-language press. In much of this she had her husband's support. As the horror of Vietnam gradually became more apparent he took a grim pleasure in attacking the Vietnam War in The Times and signing his let-ters "Brigadier Reto". While opposed to the proliferation of nuclear weapons, he drew the line at the Aldermaston March his wife and daughter insisted on attending. "But," she explained to him happily on her return from the second one, "you meet such a nice class of person on the Aldermaston March."

As well as writing Delf travelled for pleasure and peace, invariably mixing both activities to the bewilderment of Iron Curtain apparatchiks and indeed officialdom everywhere. As a grandmother, she felt fervently that her grandchildren should have a world to inherit. The women she met tended to be apolitically conservative and she set out to change this in Britain and world-wide. Through Russia, Poland, East Germany, Sweden, China, America, Italy, Portugal, France and Greece she travelled, lectured and made lifelong friends, solving the language problem with drawings and occasional lapses into Urdu.

Oddly for an army officer's wife she never really understood rank and hated any authority apart from her own. "Authoritarian anarchist" was a phrase used by both friend and foe about her attitudes. In particular she virulently opposed racism and applauded its opponents. She was delighted by the release of Nelson Mandela and in her last months, crippled and chairbound, she insisted on being wheeled past a hall portrait of Nelson Mandela so she could formally bid goodnight to the man she had written to so often on Robben Island.

A veteran of Greenham Common and protests in Grosvenor Square, she gradually withdrew from demonstrations and lecture tours as age took its toll. She concentrated instead on letter-writing and on the art gallery she had set up, with the help of Julian Trevelyan and Mary Fedden, in the grounds of her Suffolk home in the early Sixties. A number of successful artists exhibited there and many more, among them John Piper, Henry Holzer, Keith Grant, Ian Simpson, donated pictures for the causes like Medical Aid for Vietnam that she supported.

There will be a retrospective of her pictures and some memorabilia at the xford Gallery starting on 9 May with a celebration of her life and the scattering of her ashes in the garden she loved. JOHN PILCRIM

Vera Eleanor Hart, painter and peace campaigner: born Caumpore, India 17 August 1904; married 1929 Charles Delf (died 1981; one son; two daughters); died Yoxford, Suffolk 26 February 1999.

Adler, "Ingres and ... (v):

Museum: Valerie Holman,

in the 19th Century", 2pm. National Portrait Gallery:

Toba Mann, "Virginia Woolf

as "The Common Reader"

Wallace Collection, London

W1: Robert Wenley, "French Bronzes in the Wallace Col-

RECEPTIONS

Mr Ian Coleman MP hosted

a reception yesterday at the

House of Commons, London

and Safety Management Sys-

SW1, for the British Safety

Council's Five Star Health

tem Audit awards. Among

those presenting awards to

Mr Colin Pickthall; Mr John Cummings Ms Julie Kirkbride: Mr Enger Gale; Mr Paul Plynn; Mr Martin Slater; Dr Kim

Howells, Mr Bob Birrard; Ms Lorna Firstmons.

the 29 winning companies

were the following MPs:

**British Safety Council** 

Paintings and Photography

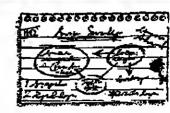
Ingres and Degas and

Victoria and Albert

Manet", 1pm.

1.10mm.

lection", 1pm.



#### MATHEMATICAL NOTES

## Poetry and art out of geometric chaos

special than most general shapes of mathematics because they are characterised by so-called "symmetries". Broadly speaking, mathe-matical and natural fractals are shapes whose roughness and fragmentation neither tend to vanish nor fluctuate up and down, but remain unchanged as one zooms in continually and examination is refined. Hence, the structure of every piece holds the key to the whole structure.

Fractal geometry is con-veniently viewed as a lan-guage, and it has proven its value by its uses. Its uses in art and pure mathematics, being without "practical" application, can be said to be poetic. Its uses in various areas of the study of materials and of other areas of engineerin are examples of practical prose. Its uses in physical theory, especially in conjunction with the basic equations of mathematical physics, comhine poetry and high prose.

To the layman, fractal art tends to seem simply magical, but no mathematician can fail to try and understand its structure and its meaning. Between the extremes of the excessive geometric order of Euclid and of the geometric chaos of the most general mathematics, can there be a middle ground of "organised" or "orderly" geometric chaos? To provide such a middle ground is the ambition of fractal geometry. The fact that fractals are dif-

FRACTALS SEEM far more ficult to grasp and slow to develop does not make them any less fascinating. Pure mathematics cer-

> tainly does exist as one of the remarkable activities of Man, it certainly is different in spirit from the art of creating pictures by numerical manipulation, and it has indeed proven that it can thrive in splendid isolation - at least over brief periods. Nevertheless the interaction between art, mathematics, and fractals confirms what is suggested by almost all earlier experiences. Over the long haul mathematics gains by not attempting to destroy the "organic" unity that appears to exist between seemingly disparate but equally worthy activities of man, the abstract and the intuitive.

> So how did fractals come to play their roles of "extracting order out of chaos"? The algorithms that generate fractals are typically so extraordinarily short as to look positively dumb. This means they must be called "simple" Their fractal outputs, to the contrary, often appear to involve structures of great richness. A priori one would have expected that the construction of complex shapes would

> necessitate complex roles. What is the special feature that makes fractal geometry perform in such an unusual manner? The answer is very smiple. The algorithms are recursive, and the computer code written to represent them involves "loops". That

is, the basic instructions are simple, and their effects can be followed easily. But let these simple instructions be followed repeatedly. The process of iteration effectively builds up an increasingly complicated transform, whose effects the mind can follow less and less easily. Eventually one reaches something that is "qualitatively" different from the original building block.

Many fractals have been accepted as works of a new form of art. Some are "representational", others totally abstract. Yet all strike almost everyone in forceful. almost sensual, fashion. The artist, the child, and the "man in the street" never seem to have seen enough, and they never expected to have seen anything of this sort from mathematics. Neither had the mathematician expected his field to interact with art in this way.

Eugene Wigner has written about "the unreasonable effectiveness of mathematics in the natural sciences". To this line I have been privileged to add a parallel statement concerning "the unreasonable effectiveness of mathematics as creator of shapes that man can marvel about and enjoy".

Benoit Mandelbrot is the cuthor of The Fractal Geometry of Nature' (W.H. Freeman and Co. £45.95) and Multifractals and 1/F Noise' (Springer-Verlag, £26.95)

## A Jewish answer to a Christian pomposity

We have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of God, a minister in the sanctuary, and the true tabernacle, which is set up not by man but by the Lord. The Epistle to the Hebrews

THESE WORDS are drawn from the Epistle set for today, the Tuesday in Holy Week. At first, the words seem awkward and odd, like the rest of that Epistle. It dates from around Paul's time, and it seems to be written for an eccentric Jewish Christian sect, not much older than Paul's epistles. The anonymous anthor talks about the Priesthood of Christ, and how it is superior to that of the Jewish Temple - more like that, he says, of Melchizedek. And before we have time to enquire: "Who he?" he mutters, "I have much to tell you about this Melchizedek", and we fear that one is here who will make the Ancient Mariner seem like a purveyor of snappy one-liners. In any case, the Jerusalem Temple went up in flames in AD70, soon after the Epistle was written. It hardly seems worth

the effort. But further into the Epistle is the bit that sends a shock through the soul:

In the course of his earthly life he offered up prayers and petitions, with loud cries and tears, to God who was able to deliver him from death.

These words take us to Holy Week - to the conflict with the Temple authorities, to Jesus's claims to be able to destroy the Temple and to rebuild it after three days. They take us straight to the garden of Gethsemane, in one of the very few passages in the Episties that resonates with the gospei narratives.

For Christ's eternal, divine priesthood depends on his human vulnerability and this fragment reveals to us that Jesus is not simply a mythic figure, but a real human being a truth that the Gospels repeatedly emphasised. The anthor of the Epistle sees all the heroes of the Old Testament (especially old Melchizedek) spanning the centuries in anticipation of the fulfilment of

It is common in religion that thanks, the literal meaning devotees make sacrifices as of "Eucharist". part of their worship to an otherwise implacable God. But the author of this letter to the that humane, personal style Hebrews insists that, in the sacrifice of Christ, an entirely different transaction occurs. Now, instead, it is God who is

devoted to humanity. This revelation transforms the human relationship to God in the most radical way. Formerly, the Divine was approached by the means prescribed by law or tradition and which it may be fatal to transgress. But now, all is changed; humanity no longer has to strive to fulfil the divine

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR EASTER**

JOHN KENNEDY

Imagination is the proper antidote to the self-regarding pomp of the Church and it is to be found nowhere better than

in the text for today

command. Our sins are forgiven already. It is that sense of gratitude rather than obedience that makes the devotee seek the divine purpose, out of thanksgiving rather than duty. The key to it all, he is saying,

is worship, which makes the author of the Epistle so different from St Paul, and so important as an early Christian spiritual thinker. The Pauline epistles convey that sense of liberation from the bondage of our nature and to our tradition. He describes that generosity of God which frees us to speak the truth and to do good. But the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews sets that proclamation in the context of worship of a new Temple, a new liturgy, centring on Christ, God made near, made human. That point Of course, the form of

worship that most resembles is the Jewish Seder - the family meal with which Jews this week commemorate the feast of Passover. For the sensibility of this Epistle is, above That kind of worship exists

over against all the mechanical. impersonal forces of the world - which our anonymous author saw embodied in the Temple in Jerusalem. Today it is all too often to be found in the Church where self-regarding pomp and our ingenious preaching. with its tedious stories and dreadful jokes - can all too easily wreck the celebration of the mysteries. It is a tendency deflated in J.B. Priestley's phrase about the pompous nonconformist who took pride in

being "A big man at t' Chapel". The author invokes the presence of God, and the nature of Christ's sacrifice, and the presence of all who have ever sought God, in a way that no other scripture does. He enjoys one faculty above all - imagination. This quality serves worship more crucially than other.

perhaps more pious, attributes. This is why. Let's assume that the world is not hugely depraved. Let's simply assert that it's just there. Its problem is that it's, well, mundane. It is in worship that we conjure that great cloud of witnesses into our presence, and assert the primacy of the truly human, despite all the forces that dehumanise us. It is in public ritual that we discover our secret selves - often more successfully than in private self searching. But the worship works only when the spiritual imagination stirs us from the mundane. This happens nowhere more powerfully in Scripture than in the Epistle's final blessing

Now may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with every good thing that you may do his will.

John Kennedy is Secretary for Political Affairs for the of that worship is to give Methodist Church

## **GAZETTE**

Hawkins, publisher, editor

and historian, 1719; Paul Ver-

#### BIRTHDAYS John Allen, former Prin-

cipal, Central School of Speech and Drama, 87; Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, former Secretary to the Cabinet, 72; Miss Sarah Badel. actress, 56; Mr Warren Beatty, actor, 62; Lord Browne-Wilkinson, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 69; Mr Eric Clapton, rock guitarist, 54; Mr John Coates, naval architect, 77; Miss Sue Cook, television presenter, 50; Mr Alan Davidson, writer, publisher and former diplomat, 75; Mr Martin Dunne, Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire, 61; Mr Graeme Edge, rock performer, 56; Mr George Esson, former Chief Constahle, Dumfries and Galloway, 57: Professor Sir Ernst Girlbrich OM, art historian, 90; Sir John Gray, marine biologist, 81; Mr Roif Harris, entertainer, 69; Professor Tony Honoré, former Regius Professor of Civil Law, Oxford University, 78, Ms Beverly Hnghes MP, 49; Sir John

Announcements for

BIETHS, MARRIAGES &

DEATHS (Births, Adop-

tions, Marriages, Deaths,

Memorial services, Wed-

memoriam) are charged at

\$5.50 a line (VAT extra). O HER Gazette announce-

ments are charged at £10 a

ding anniversaries, In

line. VAT extra.

Shell Transport and Trading Co, 61; Professor Ron Johnston, Professor of Geography, Bristol University, 58; Mr Nigel Jones MP, 51; Mr Frankie Laine, singer, 88; Mr Bernard Lyons, former chairman, UDS Group, 86; Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, chairman, England and Wales Cricket Board, 62; Mr Piers Morgan, Editor, the Mirror, 34; Mr Tom Sharpe, novelist and historian, 71; The Countess of Sntherland, Chief of the Clan Sutherland, 78; Lord Tanlaw, chairman and managing director, Fandstan Ltd. 65; General Sir Richard Trant, former Quarter Master General, 71; Sir John Wells, former MP, 74; Professor Arie Zuckerman, Dean, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 67.

Jennings, former chairman,

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Maimonides (Moses ben Maimon), Jewish. philosopher, 1135; Sir John

ROYAL

ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of Edinburgh,

attends a lunch at the Arts

Club, London W1; and, as

Royal College of Radiolo-

Honorary Fellow, attends the

gists' concert and dinner at

Honorary Life Member

laine, poet, 1844; Vincent van Gogh, painter, 1853; Sean O'Casey, playwright and writer, 1880; Joyce Carey, actress, 1898. Deaths: Pietro Locatelli, violinist and composer, 1764; William Hunter anatomist obstetrician and medical writer, 1783; George Bryan "Resu" Brummel, dandy and leader of fashion, 1840;

John Caldwell Calhoun. statesman, 1850; Rudolf Steiner, social philosopher, 1925: Léon Blum, statesman 1950; Airey Middleton Sheffield Neave MP, barrister and writer, killed 1979; James Cagney, actor, 1986. On this day: the Treaty of Paris was signed, ending the

Crimean War between Russia on one side and England, France, Turkey and Sardinia on the other, 1856; a treaty for the purchase of Alaska from Russia for the sum of \$7.2m was submitted to the US Senate, 1867; Thomas

St James's Palace. The

Dake of York, Patron, inau-

gaurates a new field ambu-

lance for the Commonwealth

Society for the Deaf at Buck-

Royal, President, Animal

Health Trust, unveils Lord

Gyllene, a sculpture, at Lan-

wades Park, Kentford, Suf-

folk; and gives a huncheon for

ingham Palace. The Princess

arrived at his post, 1893; the first news event was filmed. when the Oxford and Cambridge boat race was captured on film by Robert Paul and Birt Acres, using a camera of their own invention: 1895; President Lyndon Johnson agreed to the shipping of additional grain to aid the starving millions of India, stricken by famine, 1966: the US Embassy in Saigon, Vietnam was blown up by the Vietcong, killing 13 people, 1966; President Ronald Reagan was shot in the chest by John W. Hinckley Jnr. 1981

Francis Bayard, first US

ambassador to Great Britain,

Today is the Feast Day of St John Climacus, St Leonard Murialdo, St Ludolf, St Osburga, St Rieul or Regulus and St Zosimus of Syracuse.

LECTURES Oakes, "Assyria and the

British Museum: Lorna Bible", II 30am. National Gallery: Kathleen

the Royal Veterinary College

at Buckingham Palace. The

Duke of Kent visits Glasgow

city-wide strategy for export

support, and other compa-

cess Alexandra visits the

General Dental Council at

Wimpole Street, London W1.

nies at the West of Scotland

Science Park, Glasgow, Prin-

Exports, for briefing on a

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am: F Company Scots Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by

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# The celebrity catnap mystery

Remy the cat had it all. A loving family, good looks and a lucrative contract as the face of Sheba cat food. Now she's gone missing in strange circumstances. Is this the price of fame? By Steve Crawshaw

should be able to see the obvious: this is absolutely the most adorable one ever born. If others only see the little miracle as a screaming and mewling/yapping and growling monster, that merely goes to show that they have no

Lulled by that perception, thousands every year send pictures and videos of their adored animal to placement agencies with names like Animal Intellectuals and Animals Galore, in the hope that maybe their pet's unique brains and beauty will receive universal recognition. Very occasionally, they may be successful. More often, there is a polite letter of reply conceding "we'll keep your letter on file".

Occasionally, it happens the other way round. One girl, a few years ago, sent in her photograph in a hid to be the next Naomi Campbell or Kate Moss. She committed the tactical error of posing with her dog, in the hope that this would create a suitably cute effect. It did, but not in the way she had intended. She was informed were needed for success on the world stage.

Animals sometimes become at they are selling. The Dulux dog often seems better known than the ICI paint range which has, for some reason, been given the same name. The auditions to gain the Dulux Dog laurels are as hotly competitive as the Miss Pears quest for an angelic little curlyhaired soap girl. Winners of the Dulux competition talk blissfully of achieving the holy grail: "I was so through my body," said the owner of one successful Dulux dog after the finals at the opulent Lanes-

Imagine, then, the horror when a star goes missing. Remy, one of the stars of the famous Sheba catfood adverts, has disappeared. Remy was due to be filmed in a new Sheba advert. But one evening, the pregnant cat suddenly "vanished into thin air", in the words of her owner, Linda Evans, Ms Evans, a cat breeder in Chislehurst, always

got phone calls asking about the possibility of getting a cat "just like the Sheba cat". She insists: "I eat, sleep and drink this cat. I get up at any hour of the night, just calling her. I've become very obs People think I'm a nut."

A dancer's legs can be insured for millions of dollars. So how much can a star cat or dog be worth? Linda Evans is indignant at the question. "People say she's worth £1,000. But she's not worth £1,000. It's silly to say what she's worth she's priceless."

In strictly commercial terms, animals are rather more replaceable than their owners will admit.

'It's the kudos that counts. You walk past a big poster and think, "That's mine!"'

It's true, a few are unique. In the case of the old staple Kattomeat, the cat that promoted it became so popular that Spiller's eventually caved in, ditched the old name in 1992 and renamed the product after egant white endorser Arthur's but as for her dog-yes, please. The cat food is inextricably linked dog had all the star qualities that with the cat that promotes it - with its trademark languid dipping of a paw into the tin. He has achieved national fame on a grand scale, least as important as the product and has even written his memoirs (with a hit of help from his owner, Anne Head).

Even in the case of Arthur, some sleight of hand allows for the disturbing interruption of mortality. The current Arthur is Arthur III, spotted as a kitten in an animal shelter in Wood Green, north London, and then carefully groomed for stardom. Arthur II, who died in retirement last year, had been spotproud, it was like an electric shock ted in the same animal shelter (a starry place, Wood Green). In the case of Arthur II, it was a matter, in the estate agent's phrase, of "has borough Hotel in London last year. potential - needs extensive renovation". When Anne Head, doyenne of the animal-star world, first found Snowy (as he then was), he was "in a dreadful state". Much repair work was required before he attained a state of telegenic Arthurian glory.

Arthur III now has a couple of understudies who turn up for film shoots with him, in case the star for some reason fails to perform satisfactorily. But Arthur is the ex-

dents. At least they'll be getting

There has been tension at home.

Rosie is furious with Ian for slagging

her off (he called her opinionated

and narrow-minded) and has gone

back to her parents in London until

it's time to go back to college. "I

want to spend as long as I can out

"Ian calls me narrow-minded."

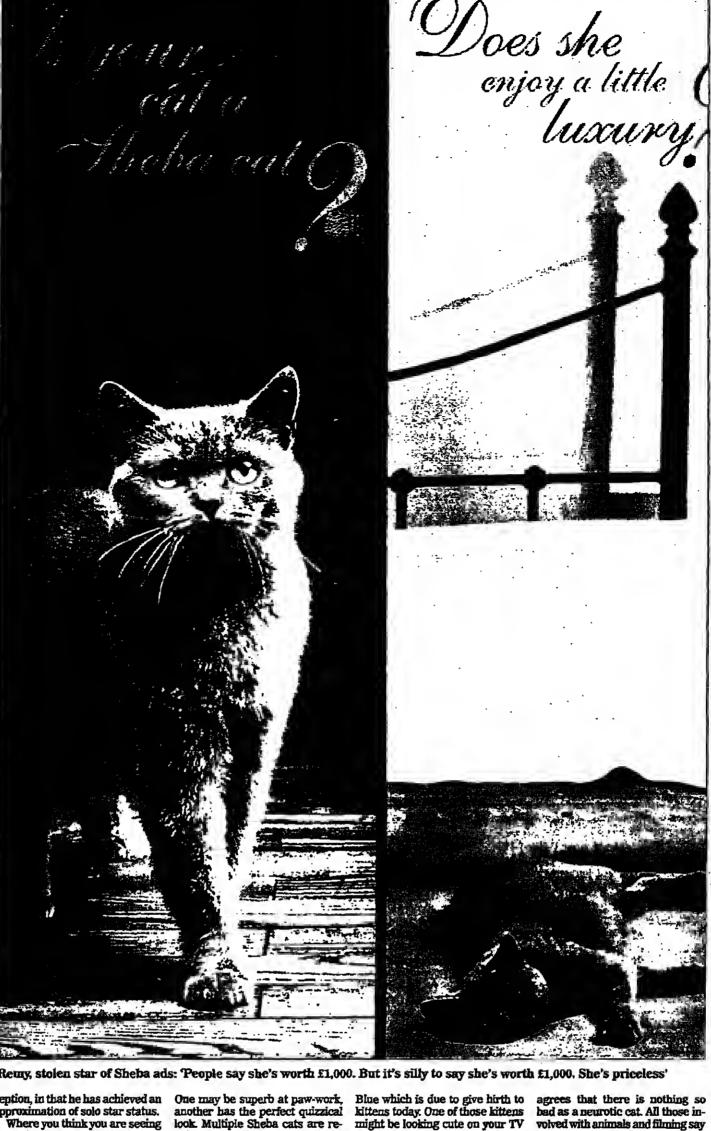
she explains, "but I'm only like

that about him because I've given

him so many chances. He's always

of that house," she says.

home town of Leeds.



Remy, stolen star of Sheba ads: 'People say she's worth £1,000. But it's silly to say she's worth £1,000. She's priceless'

Uh-oh! It's a boy versus girl thing

one animal, you are probably seeing two, three or more. In Babe, long filming schedules and the constant need for a cute little piglet meant that the Babes were endlessly replaced (with just a little cosmetic hair dye along the way to make sure that they all looked exactly the

As with the Babes (most of whom were presumably being turned into pork cutlets, even while their successors were charming the cameras and hoping for a Best Pig Oscar), there is no single Dulux Dog. Instead, there is a series of placid Old English sheepdogs, each of which must approximate to a Platonic ideal of the Great Dulux Dog.

Like their human counterparts, animals often have body doubles.

quired. Remy is (or was) one of a large number of Sheba cats across the country - though the exact number is covered by a feline version of the Official Secrets Act. Pedigree - of Chum, Whiskas and Kit-e-Kat fame - is part of the Mars group, who guard their trade secrets fiercely, and refuse to divulge just how many Sheba cais are used in the UK. Trainers say, however, that they reckon to take "four or five" Sheba cats along to a sin-

gle filming session. The demand means that the chances for the owner of a wouldbe star are always there, if the look is right. Linda Evans still hopes that one of her cats will again be a Sheba cat. She is currently looking after another British screen before long.

Little film stars need bodyguards to keep them safe; dogs and cats have to do without. The pay is not necessarily astonishing. Admittedly, a megastar like Arthur can produce what Anne Head calls before they themselves ever enter "substantial" fees. It is generally reckoned that the animal Evangelistas get around £1,000 a day - the standard rate, however, is closer to £100. As one trainer mournfully remarks: "You don't even get the repeat fees, not like human beings." But, she adds: "It's the kudos that counts. You walk past a big poster site, or you turn on the TV, and you

think That's mine!" The old director's rule about never working with animals and children remains valid. Everybody

bad as a neurotic cat. All those involved with animals and filming say that good temper counts for much more than good looks. Even then, acclimatisation to studio life is essential Cats are brought in for studio visits to get used to the "Camera! Lights! Action!" routine,

the spotlight of fame. At least cats can be assumed to be more or less well-behaved. Some animals are regarded as a definitively hopeless case, when it comes to filming. On one occasion, when the script called for a zebra, the director eventually plumped for an easier option. Zebras are temperamental, horses less so. The result: the production company took a pony, and painted it in black and white stripes. Like they say: the

camera never lies.

#### THE JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

39. GREASY SPOONS BY JOANNA BRISCOE

WHENEVER I am away for more than a month, an explosion of alarming expat tendencies resets my heart to Greenwich Mean

Time. Yet those longings are not

for some Jerusalem-drenched vision of green, but for a particular fug of grease, steam and wiped Formica. I twitch for baked beans, mahogany-hued tea and stained tabloids served in a rising babble of shouts and roadworks - in short, the sweet sorrow of the greasy spoon. It's a particular world, so English and yet so Italian; unfriendly to a spectacular degree, with a crashing of crockery and communication in barks; or a home from home, your own lard-splattered sitting-room extension. Either way, I'm in my natural element. It's that precise, entirely predictable, nasty deliciousness, that gets me running, like a fool, to the "English" cafe Tea and Sympathy in New York if

I'm never so relaxed as when sitting in a greasy spoon. The joy lies in the atmosphere of speckled lino, fly-spattered hlinds, sunlight filtered through smeared windows to hit a cloud of steam. and an eternal war between bleach and grease. It's the language: the specials, the swarming apostrophes, the gunfire demands for a slice, a jacket, a serving of hubble. It's the smeartransparent pages of tabloids with sudden bright orange crusts from which you fear ghastly diseases hut which you carry on reading.

I'm away for too long, baying after the scent of comfort. It means

that in London I barely move.

My favourite café is Andrew's Restaurant, in Clerkenwell, London. There, to its murky beauty, its comforts and kindnesses, my thoughts home in from all corners of the world. With its vinyl and nicotine, its plastic menus and eternal goodwill, it's like a day-care centre for artists, window cleaners, gay activists, barristers. ITN presenters and escapers from rehabilitation centres. A dear and beloved Italian septuagenarian called Joanna owns, manages and serves. Cheeky lads call her "Mum"; care-in-the-community recipients roll up in jogging-pants and stained anoraks and treat her like a saviour. She's my namesake. duenna and dispenser of welcoming kisses and weak tea in the white-toast heaven that fuels

The joy lies in the strange but distinctive juxtapositions that exist so happily in the classic greasy spoon: the misspellings, the "crispolini" and brown sauce, prawns and avocado, the industrial drill of the coffee machine, the sludge, dribble and snowy white napkins. I am so in love with my favoured local that I generally settle for the utter predictability of baked potatoes or toasted cheese-and-tomato sandwiches, and am resistant to offers of sea bass, truffle risotto or purple sprouting broccoli elsewhere. If someone wants to meet for lunch, they must come to Andrew's, where I sit with a haifwritten govel and an eighth cup of tea. There I remain, stubborn and despotic. I will not venture away from that roaring of buses and array of specials.

The greasy spoon is as English and comforting as an Indian takeaway before a bath, as dark and smelly as the London Underground, as entertaining as a scandal-high party. It beats any number of suspect coffee bars given to high stools, discomfort and pavement posing.



ROBBIE studying economics

LEONA was studying

DAVID studving

management

LAN studying geography

studying management

ALISTAIR

studying.



studying French

The students are starting to get up each other's noses. Who's to blame? Well, it's got to be someone's fault... By Cayte Williams IT'S THE Easter break for the stugirlfriends or work, but he works no

three weeks of holidays - valuable denly he'll just flip out and start time when they can study for exams yelling at people." and calm down after a fraught cou-Ian seems to have a short fuse, ple of weeks in the house. Leona's and one person who got burned was gone to Liverpool to visit an ex-Rachel, who moved out a month boyfriend, Tasha's gone home to her ago. When she was living with him family and Ian's heading off to his they had a huge argument and she took her grievances to the landlord.

harder than anyone else, and sud-

"I found out from him last week that Rachel went around to see him crying her eyes out," says Ian. "She was trying to get me evicted, but the landlord told her to talk to an official person at the university." The problem was that Ian and Rachel both have strong opinions and this was bound to lead to trouble. "She was always trying to cause arguments all the time, trying to make herself bigger than she was," insists THIS STUDENT LIFE



EASTER BREAK, WEEK 12 AT THE MANCHESTER STUDENT HOUSE

recognised by arguing all the time." Even the girls, who always got on with Rachel and would probably disstressed! Either it's the stress of lan. "She always wanted to get agree with that pronouncement, a word against each other," she

were surprised by her reaction. "Ian came to us for advice and we tried to help him," says Rosie. "It was really unfair what Rachel did, but he needs something to stop him from freaking out on people. He has big angry rows with people and he calls them names. He said some dreadful things to Rachel." Rosie feels that she's tried to help Ian through a problem, only for him to slag her off, and she's had enough. "I couldn't care any more what he thinks of me," she sighs. "I would

never say openly what I think of him. I just couldn't care less." But if Rosie thought she'd get any support from the boys, she was mistaken. She finds it particularly irritating that the boys all protect each other whenever there are any problems in the house. "They won't say

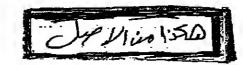
says. "David and Alistair are really good to live with but they don't say anything about another bloke. Robbie is stuck in the middle (he lives on the first floor with the girls. while the other boys live on the ground floor] hut he knows Ian better than anyone else and he wouldn't agree with me even if he knew all the things I've said about him were true."

While the girls try to muck in with the boys, Rosie reckons the boys don't make too much of an effort. "When two of them burst in on Leona in the shower she was really upset, and they were apologetic." recalls Rosie, "But it turned into a war for a week, with food fights and arguments. I don't understand why they have to make everything a boy

versus girl thing, but they do." David, meanwhile, is trying to be

diplomatic about Ian. "There was only one big argument between him and Rachel." he explains. There was always tension between those two. It just built up and blew out." So what was the problem? "Ian's from Yorkshire and Rachel was brought up down south," continues Dave. "I suppose Ian's a working-class lad and Rachel was more arty. Ian wouldn't take any pretension." So what does he think about Ian's clash with Rosie? "I don't want to say anywith Rosie? "I don't want to say thing to get my balls chopped off,"

So is Ian really this terrible creature who made Rachel cry? "I just get on with a certain type of person, he says, "and you either like me or you don't. That's the way I am; I don't like trying to get people to





terr in the contraction

# French without tears

He's the soap star who won't talk to the tabloids but, as he returns to the stage, Michael French speaks exclusively to David Benedict

astEnders has always been good at exits. Tearstained episodes are built around the farewells of well-loved characters who are granted one last lingering pan round beloved Albert Square and a taxi in which to drive up west and away. As the car drives off they stare out of the back window, the cast waves and a nation mourns.

But the departure of handsome, dangerous David Wicks a couple of years ago was something else. Less lump in the throat, this was heart in the mouth stuff. In plot terms, push had come to shove, and then some. In the breathless run-up to his exit, he and Carol Jackson (Lindsay Coulson) had a succession of scenes of snatched intimacy and spiralling desperation that glued millions to their screens and made huge demands of the two actors. This say have been a soap but it was seriously good acting, rivaling the now leg-endary "High Noon" at the Queen Vic between Angie and Dirty Den.

Cut forward two years. Tomorrow night, Michael French will prove that, contrary to popular belief, there's life beyond Albert Square when he opens in Socred Heart, a new play by Mick Mahoney at London's tiny Royal Court Upstairs. Number-crunching TV executives must be puzzled. I mean, why would anyone exchange an audience of approximately a third of the nation for the 100 or so people a night who will see him on stage?

The chances of anyone finding out the answer to that are reckoned to be beyond slim. As any BBC publicist will tell you, Michael French doesn't give interviews. Hardly surprising when you know that three years ago he woke up to find himself "outed". The tabloid version of what he right, My considered to be his private life was splashed across the Sunday papers. Many actors continue to dedicate themselves tirelessly to avoiding anonymity, but understandably this one has politely, but assiduously, shunned the media circus.

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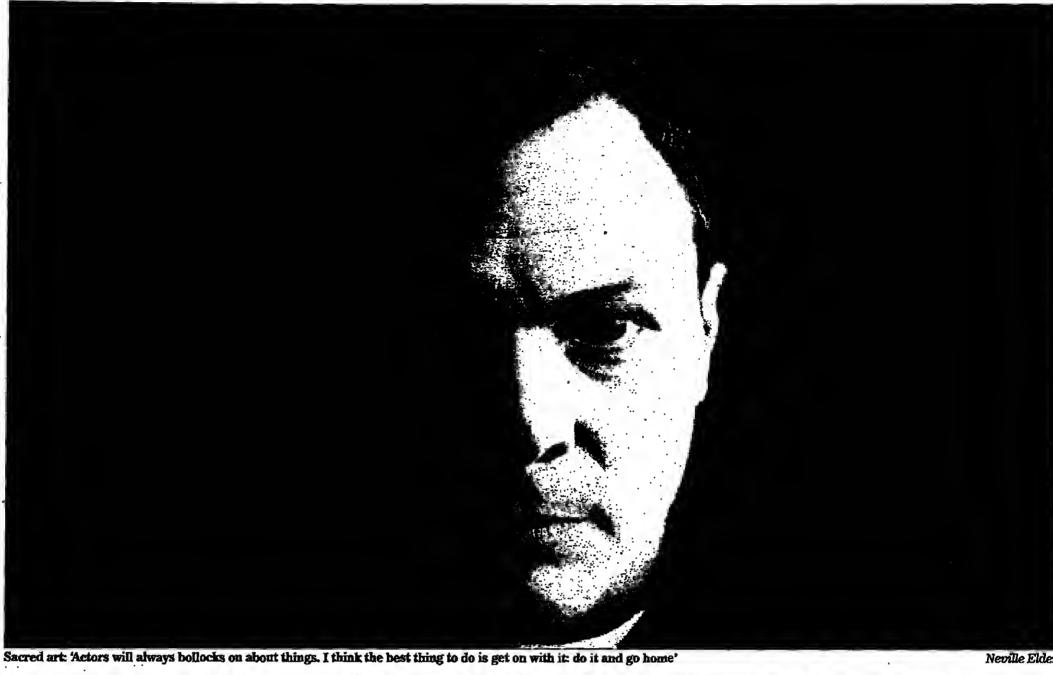
sole The ellipse

So, having agreed to make an exception to his own rule, he's more than a little wary. And it's not just the business of privacy. He is clearly daunted by interviews. "I read them afterwards and always think Why didn't I say it like that?" he explains, his wide, open face clouded with worry.

Yet the fact that he's willing to give up an hour between rehearsals indicates a change of heart. He puts it down to two reasons. Working with the director Edward Hall and fellow actors Doon Mckichan, Cecilia Noble and Ewan Stewart has engendered a growing feeling of selfconfidence. Even more important, he's excited by the play.

Socred Heart is a slice-of-lives drama about four former friends who meet up after 18 years in the soon-to-be-torn-down Sacred Heart hall of their youth. Formerly hidden feelings return to trouble a seemingly serene present, and jealousies resurface from beneath the waves of the past.

"There's a lot I identify with in the role," French says, warmly. His character, Jerry, is a working-class, knockabout adolescent made good, a success story with wideboy tendencies, who sports smart suits and is used to manipulating situations for his own ends. Although the surface of the char-



sort of that class", he observes - there's on-legs surgeon in the successful Cosualty a deeper chord in the line where Jerry is spin-off Holby City, but it is acting. referred to as "the shadow".

"Being in the shadows means you stand back and watch things. I think I've always been one of those people. I don't go to pubs very often with friends. When I do, I'll let my bair down and have fun, but really I'm happier sitting back as an observer."

So, hardly the smooth-talking bit of acter And it became a job." rough we've come to know and love. That this should come as a surprise is, of course, absurd, but audiences all too readily blur the distinction between actors and roles. This reached an alarming apogee. when Michael Greco - the actor who plays Tiffany's would-be boyfriend Beppe in EastEnders - was hospitalised after being beaten up by thugs who felt he (or, rather. his character) shouldn't have been messing with Grant Mitchell's missus. French's screen persona is undoubtedly cocksure,

It's an achievement of which French is justifiably proud. "I didn't go to college to train and I don't come from an acting family. I sang a lot when I was younger and loved communicating through song and dance." He searches for the thought. "I think I knew I expressed myself better through a char-

The flip side of soap-stardom is that it produces collective memory loss. Nobody imagines these actors have ever worked before. So before anyone gets carried away into thinking that French is gracing the stage with his theatrical debut, let's setthe record straight. Far from frequenting the dole office before being whisked off to Walford, French was singing his heart out.

His first job was in Godspell. He graduated to playing the lead in the last London revival of West Side Story and was 10 toying with Cindy Beale or any of the other months into his contract as Javert, one of

acter strikes home - "I am of that age and Walford women, or playing the driven, sex- 'the leads in Les Misérables, when the call came from the BBC in 1993.

"I was diabolical when I started," he laughs, "but doing it week in, week out, you can't fail to improve." As his character grew more intense, so did the pressure. "I was in every episode - they call them trios every week for what seemed like an eternity. But the busier I was, the happier I was. I couldn't get enough of it."

Shooting 80 minutes of television every week means that rehearsals are pared down to a minimum. "The rehearsal calls are really just a few minutes to give the cameraman the opportunity to line up the shot and for the director to say Walk to that mark, stand there and do that'.

"Now, if you want to be treated like that then that's fine. I never did. I did all my rehearsals at home. I made sure I knew my lines and exactly what I wanted to do and if things didn't suit me I said it.

"Sometimes I was right, sometimes not, but after a couple of years people knew to expect a little bit of confrontation." Upon leaving, he was genuinely shocked at how much work he was offered. "Overwhelming, really. And I obviously wasn't ready for it," he adds, soberly. But out of that confusion came Holby City. He's a little crestfallen when I say I caught only the first episode. "I got much better towards the end and I don't care if you put that."

Ironically, he has put off returning to theatre because of his potential box-office power. Although he's been keen to flex his theatre muscles, there were problems in being so recognisable. "It brings with it a certain amount of paranoia. You think, 'Why do they want me in a show? Is it for the right reason?' Here, I feel they picked me because I'm the right man for the job."

Tabloid editors no doubt justified their front-page splash on the grounds that part of that job is allowing the public to see the man behind the image. Surely the unwelcome exposure was upsetting? He sighs. "I laughed about it. I put it in the bin

and I've never thought about it since. Honestly. People made such a fuss about it but have I ever publicly responded to it? No. If I wish to have a relationship with someone, that's private and it always will be. They can write what they like. My job is to act, to entertain, that's it. I had good reviews, I knew I was valued, end of story."

Fair erough, but I don't know whether I'm convinced by this bullish self-assurance. It doesn't quite marry with the struggle for self-confidence that underpins so much of his story. He's certainly apprehensive about the opening night after a relatively swift rehearsal period, but he remains refreshingly down-to-earth about it.

"You can sometimes have too much time. Actors will always bollocks on about things. I think the best thing to do is get on with it do it and go home." As the man said, it's just a job.

'Sacred Heart' is at the Royal Court Upstairs at the Ambassadors (0171-565 5000)

## Time to kiss and make-up again

OLAR MEN have been known to do funny things to attract the attention of young women. Some parade their greying hair as signifiers of experience and wisdom. Others squeeze themselves into undersized jeans and larid sweaters to recapture : lost youth. But Kiss hero Gene Simmons, notorious seducer of more than 4,000 women, has found the answer. It seems that young girls cannot resist a 52year-old man in 6-inch platform boots, make-up and a massive, glittering codpiece.

In 1977, the heavily painted Kiss were considered the most popular rock group in America. They suffered a dip during the

POP KISS WEMBLEY ARENA

Eighties after sacking two members and adopting a disturbingly "natural" look. But now the classic Kiss line-up has returned, complete with original guitarist, Ace Frehley, and drummer Peter Criss, together with a whole department store's worth of greasepaint

In accordance with the Seventies nostalgia, the band have also reverted to the days of the out-and-out stadium show Last Thursday, we witnessed levitating stages, 3D video screens, a seasoned drag queen, mincrocket-launching guitars and a eyebrow-singeing pyrotechnic show, not to mention the obligatory smoke machines, fireworks and rallying cries of "You wanna rock?". With titles like "Love Gun" and "Calling Dr Love", Kiss's music may be ludicrously overblown schlockrock, but this band know how to give fans their money's worth.

For all their macho posturing, Kiss also unveiled a curiously homo-erotic disposition. Not only do these behemoths of soft rock provide legions of grown men with the opportumity to play dress-up, but singer Paul Stanley came across like

ing about the stage with his buttocks cleuched, his lips pursed and tossing his hair from side to side. As he ripped off his shirt. hundreds in the audience gieefully ripped off theirs, and when he threatened to climb into the crowd, you feared for his safety in the sea of excitable, seminaked men. Instead, he took a trapeze to a platform in the middle of the crowd where fans could only stroke his boots.

There was no doubt about Gene Simmons' manhood. He arrived on stage like an aged warlock in thick armour plating, thigh-high boots and glistening war-paint. His eyes gleamed



and notoriously long tongue flicked as he hunbered about like a randy Stegosaurus. His big moment came when he was hoisted into the air

spewing buckethus of blood

who could resist?

The years have not been so kind to Frehley, whose heavy metal grimaces seemed prompted by his gasping for breath. After his second solo, his inch-thick slap took on the appearance of a death mask. But since Kiss have re-

mained unsurpassed in the realms of stadium rock, it makes no odds that they sometimes look knackered. It is their unwavering belief in their rock'n'roll supremacy that has ensured success, and you imagine that even from the grave they will find ways to rock. FIONA STURGES

## THE INFORMATION DAILY

Our unique and unrivalled guide to theatre, cinema and entertainment in your area

This is ENO at its very,

dramatically direct...not

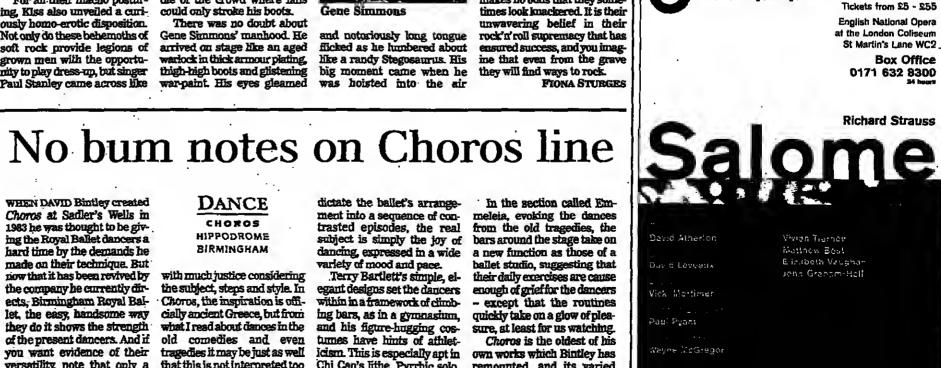
to be missed

very best, vividly focused

16 | 20 at 8.00pm

Sung in English

April 10 at 6.30pm



Designuseum



WHEN DAVID Bintley created Choros at Sadler's Wells in 1983 he was thought to be giving the Royal Ballet dancers a hard time by the demands he made on their technique. But now that it has been revived by the company he currently directs, Birmingham Royal Ballet, the easy, handsome way they do it shows the strength of the present dancers. And if you want evidence of their versatility, note that only a few days before tackling this pure dance piece they looked equally good in a contrasted Bintley ballet, Hobson's Choice, where everything hinges on plot and character.

Hobson is described by

Bintley as "an English ballet",

DANCE CHOROS HIPPODROME BIRMINGHAM

with much justice considering the subject, steps and style. In Choros, the inspiration is officially ancient Greece, but from what I read about dances in the old comedies and even tragedies it may be just as well that this is not interpreted too strictly. Accounts of mude boys, of girls vying to display the prettiest buttocks, and words such as "lewd", "suggestive" and "lascivious", occur in the most scholarly volumes. Well, there's none of that in Choros,

dictate the ballet's arrangement into a sequence of con-meleia, evoking the dances trasted episodes, the real subject is simply the joy of bars around the stage take on dancing, expressed in a wide a new function as those of a

variety of mood and pace.
Terry Bartlett's simple, elegant designs set the dancers enough of grief for the dancers within in a framework of climbing bars, as in a gymnasium, and his figure-hugging costumes have hints of athleticism. This is especially apt in Chi Cao's lithe, Pyrrhic solo, where he may be at different moments a discus thrower or a warrior with a shield; also in the comic episode Kordax, where Dorcas Walters through her nimble speed has to outwit three flamboyantly selfand although historical forms absorbed young men.

in the section called Emfrom the old tragedies, the ballet studio, suggesting that their daily exercises are cause

sure, at least for us watching. Choros is the oldest of his own works which Bintley has remounted, and its varied score by Aubrey Meyer was the first that he had specially written - a practice that deserves to be more widely followed by choreographers to keep ballet lively and influen-

tial among its sister arts.

# Don't ask 'why', ask 'how'

Richard Deacon's sculptures elude identification - but is a return to mystery in modern art such a bad thing? By Tom Lubbock

want you to imagine that I'm a Venusian. I've just got out of my rocket. I can speak English. And I'd like you to try to explain to me how to tie a shoelace. OK? You know the kind of game - one of those tests for I'm not sure what. We art critics are set them all the time. We're always finding ourselves having to describe things that are, for all practical purposes, indescribable. We have a go. But we know that if our words do manage to instil an accurate picture in a reader's mind's eye, it's the merest fluke.

Often this doesn't much matter. The reader can get by without a total visualisation of the object in question. A rough idea will do. What's needed is the sort of account that conveys effects, feelings, the experience, the notion, the sense. Points can be made effectively, even when the look of the thing itself remains quite vague.

But what if there isn't really a sense? At the Liverpool Tate Gallery at the moment you can see sculptures by Richard Deacon. They come with the overall title New World Order, a form of words that seems too burdened with ironies - remember the last war but one? - to be useful. And I may as well admit at the outset that I feel pretty blank about these works; don't hate them by any means, wouldn't try to step in if I heard somebody praising them, am perfectly content to share a planet with them and with their fans; just don't get it. So I'm going to have to describe them. Damn.

Deacon is about 50. He was one of those sculptors who - as the phrase is - came to prominence in the Eighties, part of a movement that was known, engagingly, as the New British Sculpture. It included such others as Tony Cragg and Bill Woodrow. It was New because, after a stretch of dominance by conceptual and performance work, it put the focus back on objects.

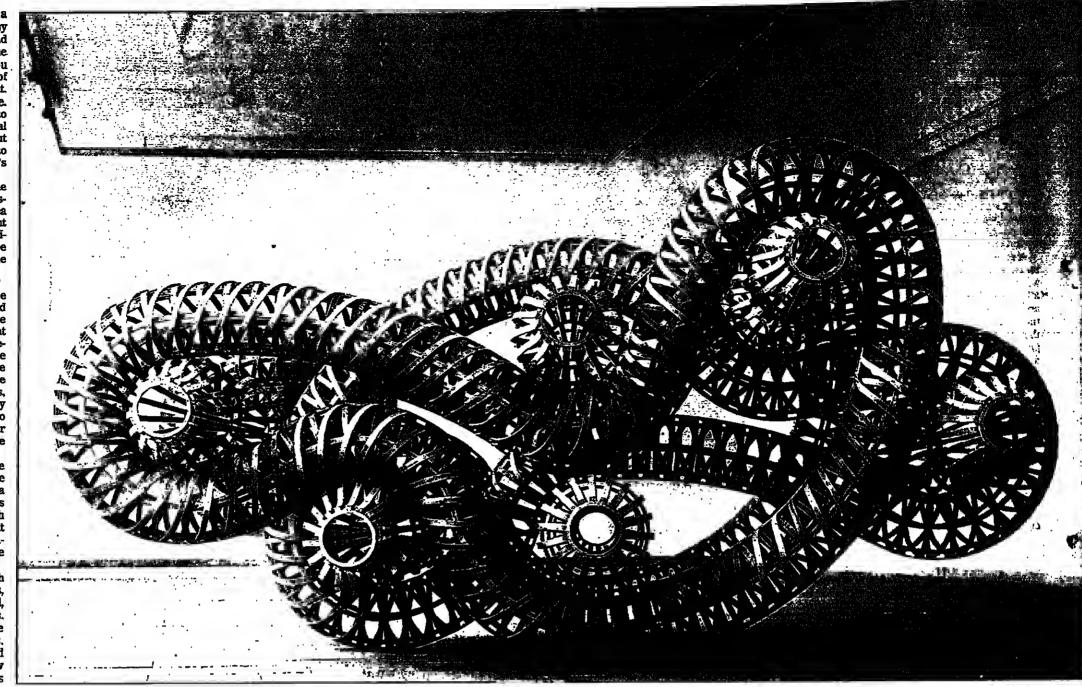
Deacon made his mark then chiefly with lumbering 3-D collages of industrial stuffs, and large, loopy bows of plywood. Wood, metal and textile were notable ingredients. There were hints of the figurative. The show in Liverpool is all from the Nineties. The artist is still operating as a - his word - "fabricator". The leading materials now are wood and plastic. The figurative has gone. I'm not doing very well, am I?

Some basic features. Deacon has never much used straight edges. His shapes are curvy or bobbly. The curvaceousness suggests, not living forms, more a Scalextrix track. The bobbliness is similar to that when something has been heated up and expanded irregularly. These objects emphasise their constructedness. They are the opposite of seamless. Their joins are visible. If they're glued together, too much glue is applied, and it seeps out. If there's a bolt connection, it's over-bolted.

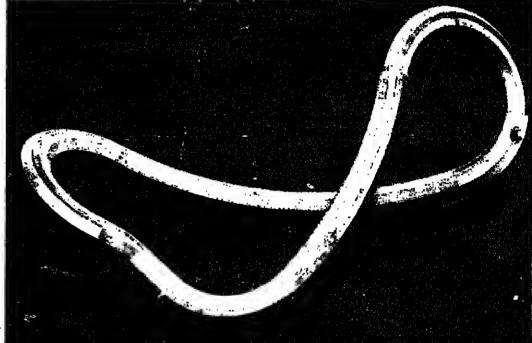
But often they have to be described in negatives. You wouldn't exactly call them abstract. They're too bitty to become pure forms; the identity of their constituent mat erials is too obtrusive. But you wouldn't call them weird or jokey objects either. They don't have explicit enough real-world associations to arouse that sort of reaction.

Here, they come in three sizes. There are some large, monumental wooden constructions - tubes of open latticing, kind of lobster-pot oesophaguses, that writhe and wind in convoluted loops. There are smaller, standing-up, roughly person-sized pieces, made of bent wood, and moulded transparent plastic, and rubber, and cardboard; but as for their shapes, my descriptive powers fail. And then there are objects smaller still, sitting around on the floor, blobs and flats and tube-y and boxy things and - leave alone delineate - with a few of them I couldn't even guess what they were made of, or whether they would be solid or squasby or bollow to the touch. At any rate, I touched one, and it wasn't at all what I expected.

Now, there were definitely moments when I thought "This is all going to come alive". The first sight is very exciting, when you glimpse one of those gigantic wooden writhers through a doorway, and it seems to promise something of overwhelming size and complexity (though it turns out this promise was mainly a glimpse effect). And another loopy one called *Laocoon* is good







Top: What Could Make Me Feel This Way A' (1993), wood with glue, screw and cable wire; above left, 'Almost Beautiful' (1994); above right, 'Seven' (1997)

to be at the very limit of what you can get your mind round - ie you can just about work out that it doesn't contain a knot (though I guess someone with high spatial skills might realise this at once).

And there are nice opportunities for the tactile imagination, especially some pieces of smooth, polished wood. There's one which is rather like the lid of an old loo seat that's been buffed and buffed to an almost fragile thinness, and lies on the floor as if

it were a pool of spilt water But I think I liked that one just because it had a metaphorical charge. And probably what one should look for in Deacon's work is the precise opposite - the way it so clev-

erty eludes any kind of identification, the way it produces objects that don't quite chime and don't quite jar, that stand there as plausible but as yet unrecruited candi-

dates for the world. Which, as an idea, sounds fine, doesn't it? And I got that feeling off one piece at least, something called Float (quite simple. futile to try and evoke). But mostly the impression was more like this. Here's this guy in his enormous studio, filled with all kinds of collected stuff and with manufacturing facilities ready to hand. Sometimes he has a big idea. But mainly he's kind of pottering, putting a and b together, trying out process x on material y, thinking that's quite interesting, and then noticing some

accidental by-product on the floor, and thinking that's quite interesting, too.

As an embodiment of the act of making and the spirit of invention, Deacon's work is exemplary - presumably inspiring, also. It would be the ideal show to take a school art class round. The objects are excellent drawing-models. They're excellent incitements to creativity. They would be just the thing for design students, as well. They're like exercises that ask to be developed, incorporated, taken up and on somewhere. Many of the little things are in a series called "Art for Other People", and I think that's what it means: for further use.

All the stress is on the how. Perhaps it's a generational thing to find that not

enough. Certainly, this is work that makes you feel the passage of time and taste, and how different Eighties sculpture was from what's come to prominence in the Nineties. The creative agenda is quite changed. Now it's bot on whats and whys. It's all a matter of knowing exactly what you're up to, articulate meanings, explicit real-world references. You may get a bit of mystery, but that's an extra. And in those terms, Deacon's work looks rather beached. What's it about? Well, er, not quite the right

anyway, rather than just savoured. And no doubt with the British art of the Nineties, things have swung too far into articulacy. You get to a point where works

question, not if you expect it to be answered

hardly need to be seen or made at all, as a full description is both perfectly feasible and all you need; and where artists are partitively encouraged to talk and think his drones from a cultural studies department There's a strong case for not knowing too clearly what you're up to. I note that the Tate's accompanying Deacon literature is almost completely meaningless. I don't mean jargonised, I mean as artspeak used to be - without any literal sense whatever At the present moment, that's quite an encouraging sign.

Richard Deacon: New World Order', Tate Gallery, Albert Dock, Liverpool Until 16 May. Closed Mon (0151-709 3223)

# YOU SHAPE MY IDENTITY C.Shaw & U.C.E, Margaret Street, Birmingham, B3 3BX

# Humour without the sting

IN THE world of Chris Orr, all is not what it seems. A hasty glance tends to conjure up a misleading image of a nostalgic England of the Fifties: all innocence, bright picture-book colours and smiling, happy

But don't be fooled - disaster and unsettling irregularities lurk at every turn.

This is narrative art in which the image draws the viewer into action-packed scenes teeming with life, from an imagination that has given itself free rein. Planes plummet to earth, nannies push their charges into themselves, and couples copulate in the wings.

Orr is drawing on childhood memories filled with steam trains, tea rooms, days spent at organised medium." the seaside and trips to the funfair, all of which are heavily overlaid with naughty school-

REVIEW CHRIS ORR JILL GEORGE GALLERY LONDON

boy humour. His chaotic, overcrowded depictions of buman interaction recall the work of William Hogarth, though Orr is indulgent towards his subjects and seems to accept them

warts and all. Born in Islington, London, in 1943, Orr is primarily a printmaker, although he also draws and paints. When he first lakes, women gleefully expose turned to print-making, he says: "There began the outpouring of my views of a flawed and wonky world. I celebrated the disorganised through an

> His Happy Days drawing, with added, vibrant watercolour, is indeed a flawed and



Detail from Tanby', 1998

wonky world, in which subversion is rife. The colour and hectic movement of a fun-fair have all been captured, but out horizontally, with one breakthere's little fun to be had. The ing free, hurtling off on a course back carriages on the rollerof destruction, and a distant coaster have detached themselves from the track, flinging tomers to the unfriendly waters

the passengers into the air; the merry-go-round is swirling at such a speed that the horses fly

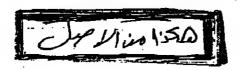
of a lake where hire boats are at various stages of capsizing except for one which holds an indifferent, copulating couple A prostrate body lies, ignored beside the shooting range.

However often you return to this work, it seems there is always something disturbing that you have previously missed. The artist's best-selling work by far is what he calls his poo poster, which has said mor than 10,000 copies to date. It an A to Z that has allowed him to indulge his scatological humour to the full: ant poo, bes

smells, cat's nasties and so 👊

This is humour without sting in the tail.

Happy Days, paintings drawnings and prints by Chris Ornat Jill George Gallery, 38 Lenington Street, London Williams (0171-439 7349) until 16 April



THE TELEVISION OF THE

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and thing " In Tom Luk

# HEALTH

You strap them on to a wound, then wait for them to eat the bacteria. Doctors swear by it. So do patients. By Roger Dobson

# There's a bug in my bandage

he new wound dressing that's just been put on to David Powell's foot appears to be moving. It's not a vigorous kind of motion, just an occasional rise and fall, almost as if a heaving mass of unseen creatures were moving about beneath that sterile white bandage

Of course, it could all be in the mind, a trick of the imagination fuelled only a few moments ago by the sight of several dozen tiny maggots being poured on to the wound and covered with that dressing.

And, according to Dr Steve Thomas, any movement is indeed down to an overworking imagination. These are not, after all, the full-size maggots that squirm around in an angler's bait can, and anyway the 400 or so patients who have so far felt their healing touch have never had any problems. In fact, most of them report no sensation at all, not even a tickling as the grubs go about their work. Their only concern is whether maggot therapy works,

Thanks to Dr Thomas, maggots like these, the larva of the greenbottle fly, are

Most people report no sensation at all, not even a tickling, as the grubs go about their work

making an unlikely comeback in modern medicine, saving limbs, fighting infection, killing bacteria and replacing antibiotics. He and his team have already supplied more than 400 other centres with 5,000 containers of maggots.

It has been known for many decades that maggots can clean wounds, but when hitech medicine arrived most physicians and their patients - opted for more fastidious ways of cleaning away dead tissue and getting rid of bacteria.

However, researchers have now discovered that maggots not only clean wounds highly efficiently they also lay down their own natural antibiotics. And with sing concern in the medical establishment about overuse of antibiotics; and the arrival of antibiotic resistant bugs, maggots are suddenly back in fashion as a highly effective therapy.

The maggots bred by Dr Thomas and his team at the bio-surgical research unit at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Glamorgan have already been successfully used on scores of patients, including a handful of people infected with the killer bacterium MRSA, which is resistant to most antibiotics

So successful has the re-introduction of the creatures been that Dr Thomas has now produced a million of them at his laboratory in South Wales, where it all began

"I had for a long time been interested in using maggots in wounds, but the spur simple - they eat bacteria. Give a maggot crete them as dead material. Thirdly, they



Maggots are bred at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend (above and below right). So far, 5,000 containers of the larva have been supplied to 400 other centres where they are used to clean wounds, such as those suffered by David Powell (below left)



plains. "I decided to give it a go and we set up in a tiny room in the laboratory producing a small number of flies. We refined the method of breeding them and produced sterile eggs and eventually we got the go-

ahead to use them on patients."

was when I heard someone talking about a meal of bugs and it will wipe the plate the theoretical concept of it all," be ex- clean. But latest research suggests that they do much more than that, and that they work in a number of distinct ways to treat

infection when they are placed on a wound. First, bacteria act as biological chemical factories turning out potent enzymes which hreak down the dead tissue in the The idea behind using maggets is quite wound. Then they eat the bacteria and ex-



produce their own autibiotic and antiseptic materials in their secretions, which cleanse the area. Fourthly, they change the acidity of the wound area so that bacteria trying to colonise the wound find it difficult to grow. Growth-promoting agents are . clude the production of natural antibiotics." have also been detected in the secretions of the maggots, which may speed up the

rate of recovery. "We know that all sorts of things are colonised with antibiotic-resistant bugs.

going on," says Dr Thomas. "We know they clean the wound and that they are multifunctional, but the precise mechanism by which the maggots kill bacteria is not fully understood. We now believe that it may in-

In practice the maggots have been used for treating infected tissue, open wounds that may in some cases have been

The sterile maggets, which are bred in the laboratory at Bridgend, are applied from a tube to the wound at the rate of about 10 per square centimetres. Tape applied to the surrounding bealthy skin stops them from getting on to the surrounding tissue, and a mesh covering acts like a cage to keep them focused on the wound itself

They are then left to work on the affected area for three days, after which they are removed and destroyed along with the bandages. For patients such as 37-year-old David Powell, the maggots have proved superior to other forms of treatment. He suffers from a loss of sensation in his skin. That means that injuries can occur and deteriorate without his getting the normal warning sign of pain.

"I had a piece of grit in a shoe and it caused a very serious wound before I realised what had happened," he recalls. "Because there is no sensation you don't know what is going on and it is difficult to keep track of.

"I was a bit surprised when they suggested maggots, but it has worked for me. I think it was a choice between having the

'I think it was a choice of having the maggots on or having the foot off. It was that serious'

maggots on or having the foot off; it was that serious. I get the dressing changed three times a week, and at the moment everything is fine."

Dr Thomas says the centre has had a number of similar cases where limbs have been saved. "It is a very successful treatment. It has often been used as a treatment of last resort, so the results are excellent given that in some cases the patients may have been a day away from losing a limb. We have shown that maggots can succeed when the chances of success are otherwise ouite tiny.

He and his colleagues also believe that maggots will have a big role to play in comsuch as MRSA: "We would like to see the earlier use of maggots to clean up problematic or infected wounds, and that in many cases would obviate the need for other treatment," he says.

But if maggots are to become a more general treatment, they will need to be used in routine wounds and not kept as a treatment of last resort, and that means convincing patients that they are the best option available.

Not of course, that there is a problem in this respect. Only three patients so far are known to have turned the idea down when it has been put to them, and, as Dr Thomas points out, it's safe, highly efficient and gives excellent results. The patients feel nothing - and the bandage really

# Choosing not to go gently

FOR ABOUT the first 20 years of my adult life I was an uncritical supporter of euthanasia. Then I read a report that changed my view. It pointed out what I still consider to be a key fact in the debate: opinion polls show that support for euthanasia declines with advancing age.

In other words, as death approaches, the prospect of being dispatched simply, easily and without pain loses rather than gains in appeal. The very people whom enthanasia is intended to benefit show least support for it. I offer this as a general observ-

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ation, not a specific comment on the activities of Dr Jack Kevorkian, who is due to be sentenced in the US this week after being found guilty of second degree murder, or those of Dr Ken Taylor, found guilty by the General Medical Council last week of starving a stroke patient to death. I am not against euthanasia and I recognise that each case must be

judged on its merits. But the decline in support for the practice as the prospect of encountering it draws nearer seems to me to demand attention. At first sight, it seems strange. Surely, you might think, advancing age and disability would increase people's enthusiasm for euthanasia. Who, after all, would choose to spend their last days disabled, bed-ridden or incapable?

The surprising answer is: most people. When the light is dying, very few go gently or willingly into necessary to the last little drop of life. growing breathlessness.



HEALTH

**JEREMY** LAURANCE

My father had a horror of ending his days as an invalid. He suffered from heart disease and would remark sotto poce whenever we visited anyone who happened to be incapacitated: "Don't, for goodness sake, let me end up like that."

Yet when the end came he was ready to have kidney dialysis in the hope that it would buy him a few more days or weeks of life, even confined to a hospital bed. He died before the machine could be rigged up him with the opportunity for a reckoning, a saying of goodbyes.

A more striking example was provided by the experience of my sister-in-law's father, a man of immense energy who found himself in his eighties totally incapacitated by very new go genuly in which a creeping hing disorder that led to not less, precious as it dwindles.



Dr Jack Kevorkian, found guilty of second-degree murder AP

in retirement took up the violin, travelled all over the world living in a camper vap, and served on a clutch of voluntary bodies. In the last year of his life he was virtually bed-ridden, sustained only by a constant supply of oxygen piped up his nose.

To many younger, healthier people, that might have seemed a fate worse than death. There were, indeed, family discussions about what should be done. But, to general but, had he lived, those few extra astonishment, the old man adjusted hours or days might have provided to his new condition better than anyone had dreamed possible by employing his niece to record his memoirs. They spent hundreds of hours, spread over weeks and months, recalling the details of the family's history. It was a lesson to the rest of us that life can grow more,

He had been a public servant, and would have altered the picture utterly. But is pain sufficient reason for ending a life? The official view, as put by the British Medical Association (BMA), is that there is no pain or suffering so great that it cannot be controlled with modern treatments, hence there should be no cause to end life prematurely.

A doctor who prescribes steadily increasing doses of morphine to ease pain in the knowledge that this will shorten life is acting within the law, provided the intention is to relieve suffering. But if he says that the intention is to end life, he has crossed a legal boundary and put himself at risk of arrest and prosecution. The BMA believes that this legal distinction must be upheld to maintain the trust that patients have in their doctors. Otherwise, doctors may come to be seen as agents The presence of pain, of course, of death. I think the BMA is right.

## I fainted on the loo

I AM a 57-year-old man who has recently been diagnosed with micturition syncope. On several occasions I have collapsed in the middle of the night while standing at the toilet emptying my bladder. The first time, I hit my head quite badly on the lavatory bowl. I'm told this is not a serious condition, but it seems potentially quite dangerous to me. Can it be cured? Micturition syncope - fainting while you are having a pee - is caused by the sudden drop in blood pressure that occurs while your bladder is emptying. It is surprisingly common, although many men simply feel a bit dizzy and do not lose consciousness. As far as I am aware, it affects women only rarely, and this fact provides a clue about how to

become dizzy and lose

that, in the middle of the night,

you follow their example.

prevent it happening again. When you get out of a warm bed, your circulatory system is in a relaxed state. As you stand up, your blood pressure is unable to readjust itself quickly enough to maintain a steady supply of blood to the brain. This, in combination with the physiological effect of a bladder contraction, causes you to consciousness. Women are not affected by this because they empty their bladders in the sitting position. I recommend

A QUESTION OF HEALTH



DR FRED KAVALIER

MY ELDERLY mother takes four different kinds of tablets - two for her blood pressure, one to regulate her heartbeat. and aspirin. She gets repeat prescriptions each month, but it is not uncommon for the chemist to give her a new brand of tablet which is often a different size or colour. She finds this extremely confusing and sometimes mixes up her tablets. The chemist says he is unable to do anything about this, and the doctor says I should take it up with the chemist. Is there no way to stop this lunacy? Your mother is a victim of generic prescribing. The doctor is prescribing the medications by their generic (chemical) name, and the chemist is entitled to dispense whatever brand he wishes. In practice, chemists change their suppliers

according to availability and price. Either ask the doctor to prescribe the tablets by brand name, or change to a chemist who will guarantee to supply the same brand each time. Another idea is to get your mother a Medidos box (available from chemists for about £10). This has compartments into which you can put a whole week's supply of tablets, allowing your mother to take her pills at the right time without thinking about what colour they are.

HOW ACCURATE are home blood pressure monitors? There are lots of electronic monitors available - finger monitors, wrist monitors and upper arm monitors. Most have not been independently tested for accuracy and therefore cannot be recommended. The British Hypertension Society has validated the Omron HEM 705-CP monitor, and Omron also make other models that use the same scientific principle. Finger monitors may be less accurate than arm or wrist monitors.

Please send your questions to A Question of Health, The Independent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL; fox 0171-293 2182; or e-mail to health@independent. co.uk. Dr Kavalier regrets he is unable to respond personally to questions

# Why should business be a bore?

en years ago, in his blistering attack on Britain's television establishment at the Edinburgh Television **Festival** Rupert Murdoch condemned the "anti-commercial attitudes" of British broadcasting. He accused programme-makers of reflecting contempt for moneymaking. The good and the great of broadcasting were contemptuous. "He would say that, wouldn't be,"

Looking back on the media tycoon's indictment, one senior BBC producer now offers offers a candid admission. "Murdoch was right," says Robert Thirkell, pausing as he puts the finishing touches to tomorrow night's concluding episode of the third series of the pioneering business programme, Trouble at the Top ("Too Many Cooks", broadcast on BBC 2 at 9.30pm).

The programme covers the

The notion that making money is interesting has become a hot idea

struggle of two businessmen to relaunch the ailing Pierre Victoire restaurant chain.

"What Murdoch said was true," be continues. "The attitude bere was that business was intrinsically boring. The view of many producers was that they hadn't joined the BBC to make programmes about money. There was real disdain for the business of making money and things. The tradesmen were supposed to use their own entrance.

What a difference a decade makes. The notion that making money is not boring but in fact very interesting has become one of the bottest ideas in broadcasting, and oot just at the BBC. Where once British viewers bad to put up with little more than weary episodes of the Money Programme, with its warmed-over features from last month's business pages, today they are being bombarded with business news - enough, possibly, to satisfy even Rupert Murdoch.

For the obsessive there is a choice of two 24-bour business news channels (CNBC and Bloomberg). For the merely interested there is a vastly expanded role for business on Radio 4's extended Today pro-gramme. Sky News has established a respected business news unit headed by Michael Wilson and has given it plenty of air time. Business



Robert Thirkell: prophet of a new kind of business television

News 24 channel. Even the Money Programme, long the BBC's sole concession to the world of commerce, has been relaunched with a new look and sharper stories.

Amidst all this, Thirkell has emerged as a propbet of a new kind of business television, of interest even to the normally indifferent. Producing a series of ably crafted films, Thirkell's achievement is to create business programmes full of passion, drama and buman interest.

He has done this by working outside the normal BBC news and current affairs structure, under the aegis - of all things - of the BBC's science department, where be has become a bot property. He has been given his own unit, channel controlnews is integral to the BBC's own from aspiring programme-makers

Thirkell, a career BBC man, joined the corporation as a researcher and by 1985 had won his first producer credit with Billion Dollar Day, a look at the foreign exchange markets that told the story of currency trading. His big break was a couple of years later when be met John Harvey-Jones. It was the

genesis of the Bafta Award-winning Troubleshooter in which Sir John starred as the original company doctor. The first programme aired just a year after Murdoch launched his attack on BBC business coverage, and critics took note. Thirkell has not looked back. Two series of Troubleshooter led

to the single programme, Nightmare lers besiege bim for shows and he at Canary Wharf (about the launch with its news bunny and weather in

Norwegian), which in turn spawned who are eager to join his team. Trouble at the Top, That then led to. Back to the Floor (in which bosses returned to the shop floor for a week) and Blood on the Carpet (a series about business battles).

Among the memorable episodes of Blood on the Carpet was the one describing the confrontation between the hippie ice-cream-makers Ben & Jerry and Haagen-Dazs, then a division of the giant American some genuinely original ideas. Just food processor Pillsbury. As a narrative it was a David-versus-Goliath story, but along the way it managed to treat many of the serious business issues that face today's managers: the permissible limits of competition. the nature of branding, the importance of skilful public relations.

Last autumn Thirkell, by now a has a stack of résumés on his desk of cable channel LiveTV, complete BBC high-fiyer, spent six weeks on an advanced management course at

the Wharton business school in America. He has returned to a promotion running the corporation's new Business and Adventure Unit. The unit's name reflects Thirkell's belief that business is itself an adventure, and that business people make great television.

The separation from the day-today pressure of news coverage has given Thirkell space to develop a few months old, the unit already has 12 series in production. They include new series of Trouble at the Top and Blood on the Corpet, a third series of Troubleshooter (in Which Harvey-Jones returns 10 years later to companies he visited in the first series), and an ambitious look at the culture and practice of manage-

ment consultancy, Naked Work. He's also shooting a one-off series dinates were up to? The viewer was left with the impression that the subject of the film was taking full advantage of the opportunity to present himself in the most favourable light. Yet despite the typically rather gentle approach to bis subjects, many of Thirkell's shows could well

had so little idea of wbat his subor-

serve as model case studies for business school students, exposing the pressures on managers as they grapple with the relentiess demands of suppliers, customers and staff. Tomorrow night's episode of Trouble at the Top is typical of the

breed. By now, most analysts who follow the catering industry already know about the ambitious launch and then the near collapse of the Pierre Victoire chain. The restaurant franchise

launched eight years ago and ex-panded rapidly but others bad similar ideas. Soon, there were bistro-concept restaurants on every corner. Suddenly, Pierre Victoire

The trick is to find a good story and let the business points make themselves

was in trouble. Franchises were struggling; many collapsed. Last summer Pierre Victoire went bust with debts of more than £10m.

Thirkell takes up the story as two ... of the former restaurateurs, Richard Willis and Simon Edwards, struggle to relaunch the company. The camera follows them from the kitchen of their restaurant in Edinburgh to grim meetings with sharebolders and prospective employees. It is the authentic stuff of business. The pressure is unrelenting, the work unglamorous. By the end of the film, Richard and Simon bave emerged as real heroes, and it would be a callous viewer who could walk away unimpressed by their pure grit and persistence.

Thirkell's programmes are hardly self-consciously didactic. They do not The trick, says Thirkell, is to find a good story and let the business points make themselves. "It's all pause for lengthy exegeses on the theory of management or marketing. about narrative." Thirkell says. "You Instead, they concentrate on the inneed a star character or a star subject. It's got to be more than just dividuals involved. If his work can be criticised, it is perhaps that be may docu-soap.

What next for Thirkell? After a career as a hands-on programmemaker, be is now at risk of spending more time managing the projects of . others than he does making programmes himself. In a corporation that faces plenty of business stress-Thirkell's unit was engaging but not es of its own, perhaps there are big-

entirely convincing; are we really to ger things in store?

on the struggle to build and launch

the Millennium Dome, and a new se-

ries for next year, Moster Blasters,

about people who blow things up for

sometimes be too sympathetic to his

subjects. An episode of Back to the

Floor last November, "Back on Site",

offered a sympathetic portrait of

Tony Pidgley, millionaire owner of

the property developer Berkeley

Homes. The portrait of Pidgley by

believe that from his position at the

a living.

Thirkell shakes his bead. "Tve altop of the company, Pidgley really ready got the best job in TV" he says.

# Taking a leaf out of Hollywood's book

British film-makers need to learn that great quality doesn't guarantee box-office success. By Darius Sanai

SO, AFTER nine months of tantrums, set disasters, budget overruns, irate screenwriters, extended theatricals, rain-sodden location work, cosy actors' huddles and editingsuite agony, you now have, in your hand, the finished copy of your clever and beautiful film, which should change the world. The Hotel du Cap, Venice and

even the Oscars beckon, but the basic issue is more mundane. How do you get as many people as possible to pay their £6. buy their giant bucket of Butterkist and settle down to watch?

This question was the subject of a seminar at Bafta's plusb Piccadilly headquarters last week, as a few of the most eminent figures in film marketing shared their secrets with many of the country's producers and directors.

In the current climate, the questions being posed and answered were serious ones. A resurgent British film industry is facing unprecedented competition for its releases, with more than 1,000 films produced every year in America and the EU. Hollywood marketing muscle is ever-present, while the pull of blockbusters viewed in massive multiplexes is immense. And consumers are being saturated with information, publicity and informed opinion in greater quantities than ever before.

In such a sophisticated world. then, making a great movie plainly isn't enough.

"Marketing is very very important to ensure that a film gets the



'Hilary and Jackie': failed to observe a few key marketing rules

results it deserves at the box office," said Peter Buckingham, director of Film Four, Channel 4's film distribution arm. Mr Buckingham spoke off the record at the seminar, but said afterwards that there was an essential issue which film-makers had to tackle as early as possible in the process.

Directors and producers have to decide who their audience will be. "Unless it's an action thriller and you're absolutely sure who is going to come and see the film, you'll want to check" - and that means using preview showings and focus-group discussions, be said.

Mr Buckingham would not be

another British industry source, well-versed in marketing, said directors and producers frequently had very little idea how to make their films succeed financially.

"There are too many people out there who think that, if they have a decent product, it will succeed on its own merits and from the reviews,

There are three main conclusions that film marketeers agree on. First, media reviews play only a minor role in attracting crowds, and are less important than either the press or many directors think.

drawn on individual film-makers, but most important factor," said Mr Buckingham.

Second, coverage in the main sections of the press, often achieved through the news pages and through feature articles, is very important, but can occasionally be a two-edged sword when it turns out to be of the negative variety.

Third, focus groups, the bane of many creative types who prefer to trust instinct, are becoming increasingly prevalent, even in the low-budget, specialist film market, and their influence is spreading backwards through the film-making process so that even scriptwriters "Word of mouth is by far the may come under their influence.

The film industry source points to the example of Hilary and Jackie. this year's biopic of Jacqueline du Pré and her sister, as a film that fell foul of some of the key rules.

"The reviews were very good, and the marketing made a positive effort to open up a specialist film to a much wider audience," he says. "The posters were sexy and the trailer was positively raunchy, but they overplayed their hand."

Despite the reviews, the rest of the media coverage was negative. with many lovers of classical music boycotting a film they perceived to demean the cellist's memory, and the mass-market audience uninterested in the subject matter.

Then there was the problem of the title, with some potential viewers inevitably confused by the apparent reference to American First Ladies. The hardest blow of all was the release and success of Shakespeare in Love at approximately the same time. "There is room for only one arty rather highbrow success at any one time," says Mr Buckingham.

In all, it seems the most important message is for film-makers to break out of the cosy circle of directors, producers and broadsheet reviewers, and step into the dangerous world of the out-of-town multiplex. tabloid feature writers and regional TV stations.

With that, they should add a dash of focus group and polling, and be prepared to change their product if necessary - just as the major Hollywood studios do. Either that, or keep their integrity and stay poor.

#### THE WORD ON THE STREET

DYLAN JONES, former Wagadon Group Editor who only recently became a father, has another new baby – GQ – although strictly speaking it's less a baby than a troublesome 10-year-old. Jones reportedly beat off a challenge from Esquire editor Peter Howarth and Alex Renton, a features writer at the Evening Standard, to succeed James Brown as editor of the Conde Nast men's monthly.

CHANNEL 5'S latest response to the Broadcasting Standards Commission's worries that its late-night programming is getting grubbier than the contents of a Soho dry cleaner's in-tray? Coverage on 6 May of the first-ever European male strip-tease contest, in A Thong for Europe.

NOT SUGGESTING for one nanosecond that Channel 4 is gloating about filching Test Match cricket from the BBC. But the sequence at the channel's summer schedule launch dealing with the forthcoming live coverage was accompanied by the Cardigans' song "Losing My Favourite Game". As they say at Lord's, that's just oot cricket - well, not on the BBC at any rate.

SIOBHAIN MCDONAGH, Labour Mr for Mitcham and Morden. hosts a reception for fellow members at the House of Commons this evening to let them hear what Radio 1 does for Britain's youth - its social



have to take Radio 1's word for how fab it all sounds since they told we're not allowed to play any music in the Commons, says a Radio 1 spokesDJ. which, since we're supposed to be telling them what we do, is a bit bizarre." CHRIS EVANS is naff - official

OK, so deep down we've known this from the moment the ginger one started making a career out of personal abuse and excessive talk about the size of his salary. But now the media agency Universal McCann reveals that TFT Friday is bracketed with shows to which, viewers say, "you get your froming cone in the same way that Blind Date went from must-see to naff," says Universal McCann's joint MD, Fiona Smedley, "TFI has gone through that curve."

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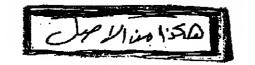
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THE PERSON RATES

Reporting the war: Slobodan Milosevic understood the importance of the media long before the current war. But now that the bombs are falling, the diversity of opinion in the British press is in stark contrast to the monolithic view from Belgrade

# Pro-war, anti-war, or just anti-Labour?

THERE WAS something deeply symbolic about The Observer coming out in favour of the Nato bombing on Sunday with an editorial headlined: "There is no alternative to this war." In 1956 it was the same paper that incurred the wrath of advertisers and readers by opposing Britain's engagement in Suez. More boldly still, it accused Anthony Eden, the prime minister of the day, of misleading Parliament because he had refused to acknowledge covert Israeli involvement in the operation. The paper was factually right, as it subsequently turned out, but that didn't stop it suffering obloquy for its perceived lack of patriotism for years afterwards - even though Hugh Gaitskell's Labour party was lso opposed to the war.

The Observer's reverse is symbolic for several reasons. The first is that it is the left to liberal press, which has been most squeamish about war in the past, and which is now the most supportive of Nato. The notable exception last weekend was The Independent on Sunday,



DONALD MACINTYRE

liberal audience, which came out unequivocally against the war, arguing cogently that Nato was the wrong in-stitution to be acting as the world's policeman. But otherwise The Guardian, The Independent and the pro-Labour tabloids The Sun and The Mirror (apart from the latter's Paul Routledge) have been supportive. The Express has also supported British involvement in the war, although more questioningly.

In this respect the left-of-centre press has broadly reflected the larger political community, in which the strongest support, naturally, is

among Government backbenchers them of being disloyal or unpatriotic, who believe in an "ethical foreign policy" and a new international order, in which military intervention to protect the oppressed is regarded as desirable. The Times and The Telegraph mirror the Tory front bench which - with reservations has backed the Government. And the Doily Moil, of which more in a moment, reflects the Tory right, which has been the most condemnatory of the Nato bombing,

The Observer's Suez history is a reminder of something else that has changed. There is much less jingoism in editorialising and commentary on this war - at least in middle-market and upmarket papers - than there was during the Falklands war or even the Gulf war. Two of the most-read Times commentators, Simon Jenkins and Matthew Parris, are strongly opposed. True. The Sun, with its "Clobba Slobba" headlines is doing its best. But just as the support for the war is less gung-ho. so no one has yet turned on the editorialists and commentators who oppose the war to accuse

let alone treacherous - even though the Serbian media is closely monitoring British coverage and regularly quotes articles which criticise the war effort.

In fact the opinions of commentators haven't necessarily been easy to call in advance, to judge by a sam-ple from last week. Philip Stephens (the Financial Times) is pro, though wants ground troops involved; The Guardian's Hugo Young is pro; The Express's Andrew Marr is critical. The Independent's Andreas Whittam Smith is anti (and at least three of this paper's other columnists are pro); and the ubiquitous Roy

The diversity and debate in the British press is just what contrasts it with a monolithic media in Belgrade, now Milosevic has shut down B92 radio and other independent services (on Saturday official Belgrade radio cheerfully reported that two pilots had been captured and four Cruise missiles downed and that the Pentagon had "con-

Hattersley is "on balance" pro.

Nevertheless, the Daily Mail is in a category of its own. Almost monolithically critical of the war, it has printed two diatribes by the distinguished historian Corelli Barnett and run regularly hostile editorials. In a typical spread across pages eight and nine yesterday, the Oxford historian Mark Almond underlined the historical implacability of Serbs while the Gulf War commander Sir Peter de la Billière expressed his "growing fear" that Milosevic will succeed. Meanwhile Mail columnist Simon Heffer is critterms, of Tony Blair's strategy.

No doubt Paul Dacre, the paper's editor, is genuinely worried that this is a military adventure which may end badly and that British lives should not be put at risk to stop an internal conflict in which direct British interests are not involved. But there are those in the Government who also suspect that it is part of a growing anti-Labour line, also visible in its coverage of the Budget's tax implications. Whatever the truth



Simon Jenkins (left) is anti-war; Roy Hattersley is pro - just

as critical of a British military action if - say - Margaret Thatcher had been prime minister.

Partly, of course, this underlines the fact that, for all Labour's success in wooing the hostile press, Tony Blair will never enjoy the umbilical it's hard to imagine that the Daily relationship with it that Thatcher did.

Mail would have been anything like In fact, we should welcome the diversity of opinion and debate on the war. However, you also can't help noticing in passing that when the right attacks a Labour government for making war, it's fair comment; but when the left criticises a Conservative government for making war, it's unpatriotic.



# Inside the Serb machine

got the call to work for Milosevic's propaganda machine. TV Serbia, the graders call the Soviet-style edifice in the middle of the capital.

Why me? There weren't many her candidates. In the still united Yugoslavia of those days resident Western reporters were few and far between. Most of my colleagues in the International Press Centre were portly middle-aged men in raincoats from the Communist bloc.

Slobodan Milosevic's new regime in Serbia, now a year in the saddle, decided it wanted a more "Western image". The Serbian Communists felt they were losing the propaganda war with their comrades in Croatia and Slovenia, who were always comparing their Western and "international" aspirations with what they called "Byzantine" Serbia.

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There was another factor: Kosovo. Milosevic was planning big changes in Serbia's southern province, starting with the removal of the Albanian leaders and ending with the scrapping of Kosovo's autonomy. Why not show that Serbia was cosmopolitan and international, too, by starting a news programme in English?

And so Vesti na Engleskom (The News in English) was born, and with my public-school vowels I was the perfect man to read the script. I had some qualms about the idea but not many. As a new freelance in Belgrade no one in London was very interested in my stories in the autumn of 1988. My efforts to explain the logistics of the threat to Kosovo's autonomy down a crackling line to The Independent's newsroom failed to



MINICOS TANNER

excite the editor at the other end of the line. Meanwhile TV Serbia, in the days before Milosevic bankrupted the place, was offering me hard cash. I did feel uncomfortable with the note of blatant chauvinism creeping into the Serbian news programmes about Albanians. But Milosevic's officials were loudly insisting all they wanted was "justice" for Kosovar Serbs and equality between Serbs and Albanians in the province.

We tried filming the first programme live, BBC-style, with me standing in front of the Skupstina, the Belgrade parliament, shouting into the wind. But the camera was so wobbly and I was so nervous that the result was awful, so we decided to do it TV Serbia style, pre-recording the news in the studio and using dull pictures of official buildings on the screen. That was how they did it on the main news programme at 7.30pm; stories from Croatia showed a grainty shot of a park in Zagreb, stories from Macedonia showed a redbrown building that may have been a parliament and stories from Kosovo showed a fuzzy block of flats.

In spite of that, Vesti na Enm turned into a real hit, and when I travelled round Serbia people were always delighted to find out I was the presenter The big joke was that year Striding through a crowd lic school voice about "Albanian na-



Slobodan Milosevic on the podium: his understanding of the media ensured the triumph of his coup in Serbia

whether they preferred my English English or the American twang of my colleague, Michael.

The problems soon began. It was no dilemma reading out a script written by "Booky", as we nicknamed Mr Bukvic, the producer, and of course I took it as read that he was a member of Milosevic's League of Communists of Serbia. Management of the news had always been one of Milosevic's top priorities.

Back in 1987, when he staged his internal coup in the party, brutally overthrowing his mentor Ivan Stambolic, it was Milosevic's crucial understanding of the importance of the media that had ensured his triumph. He owed his rise from bureaucratic non-entity to popular hero to a single well chosen remark in front of the TV camera in April of

of Serbian demonstrators in Koso-tionalists and separatists" (they vo he turned to the camera and. shouted "no one has the right to beat you", so breaking the old Communist taboo against making unscheduled populist statements.

So I knew the score. I even took it in good part when Booky's official translator, an old lady with enormous spectacles, translated the script into terrible English and made me read out twisted, ungrammatical phrases. Playing around with the party line was unthinkable, and even my protestations that they ought to trust my understanding of English fell on deaf ears. But by the end of 1988 the atmosphere frayed. More and more often we were arguing about the wording just before we trooped off to the studio. I felt like Lord Haw Haw droning on in a pub-

weren't yet called terrorists) - the stock party line for any politician in Kosovo opposing the changes Milosevic was steamrollering through. But at least Booky was an old

commy of the Tito vintage. True, he was sympathetic to the Milosevic line. But he believed that the new Serbian nationalism did not pose a fundamental threat to old Titoist Yugoslavia. or to the old Titoist slogan of "bratstvo i jedinstvo" - "brotherhood and unity" between Yugoslavia's many nations. He liked the new slogan, that a strong Serbia would create a strong Yugoslavia.

But when Booky faded out of the nicture he was replaced by one of the new nationalist fanatics who seemed to be taking over everywhere. superficially groovy, jean-clad youths

bands, football and "chicks", but whose faces became distorted with rage if the conversation strayed off those tried and trusted topics to the rights of Albanians in Kosovo or Croatian secessionism. After a brief discussion about our Kosovo coverage ended with my new producer screaming at me in the TV Serbia bar I knew it was time to leave.

And my departure was timely. Soon the police were shooting over the heads of, and then at, Albanian demonstrators. It was no time to be sitting in a studio in Belgrade talking in wooden phrases about "Albanian nationalists and separatists". I hurried down to Pristina. There were gun battles going on in the streets of the Kosovo capital and Yugoslav tanks churning through the boulevards. This time The Indewho loved to gass on about rock pendent did want the news.

## Star reporter leaves war zone

WHERE WAS CNN's million-dollar reporter and war-zone supernova Christiane Amanpour when the bombs dropped on Belgrade at the weekend? In Brussels. Like many journalists from Nato

countries, Ms Amanpour was asked kindly to leave the Serbian capital at the end of last week. She then decamped to Brussels to interview General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Commander, and decided to stay on for the briefing about the downed Stealth fighter. CNN could still call on two correspondents to file from Belgrade, of course. But the absence of the woman who has to come to personify the network's war-zone coverage in Bosnia and in Iraq has taken some of the lustre out of CNN's reportage.

Amanpour made her name as a a reporter for CNN in Bosnia. sketching out the war from her near-permanent "bome" for three years at the Holiday Inn in Sarajevo. She is credited by media co-workers with helping to secure news access to Srebrenica during the winter 1992/93 siege.She has since been sealed with a \$1m a year deal with CNN and last year she married Jamie Rubin, adviser to the US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

It was this link to the US State Department that prompted suggestions that she represented a more vulnerable target than the average reporter in Belgrade, and so was pulled out. But a CNN spokesman said that she was expelled like many others. Amanpour vesterday travelled to the border between Kosovo and Albania, where she is now reporting on the unfolding refugee crisis. No doubt the network hopes that on her return to the front line she can help it to wrest back some of the initiative now arguably being enjoyed by Sky News. Its main Belgrade reporter Tim Marshall was also expelled on Friday, but he negotiated a way back in and was able, along with the BBC's John Simpson, to report from the site of the downed Stealth fighter ou Sunday.

# The Street of Shame lives up to its name

Will Whitehorn went to the Press Gazette awards with high hopes. Then the fists started flying...

IN HER first year as editor of the Press Gazette, Philippa Kennedy has moved quickly. Its recent relaunch saw the masthead of the journalists' own newspaper redesigned, and the editorial copy has taken on a much livelier feel. So it was with a sense of great anticipation that I accepted her invitation to the press

awards last Wednesday. Despite the reputation of British journalism for its wit, flair and cleverness, the awards have never been renowned as a highlight of the year's social calendar. But as my taxi arrived at London's Hilton Hotel on Park Lane, I was intrigued to see whether Philippa had injected

some life into them. The evening started well. The massed élite of British print journalism were there (sadly, the overwhelming majority of them men), dressed in penguin suits

hearted boo or hiss. But nothing and laughing and chatting to each other. The stage looked prepared me for the ill-tempered, brilliant, the backdrop was a bad-natured and frankly juvenile huge mock-up of a Press Gazette scenes that followed almost every presentation.

front page, highlighting the At best, the award-winners appearances of Rory Bremner and the newsreader Nicholas were greeted by desultory Witchell at the awards. I silently applause (apart from the congratulated Philippa as she triumphant cheering of their own tables) and even this modest stood up on stage after some handelapping had dried up by the vintage Bremner and introduced the main show itself - the Oscars time they reached the stage to of British journalism. collect their gongs. At worst,

Almost immediately, the there were boos and heckles. evening began to turn ugly. I am This malevolent atmosphere no stranger to awards built up to a climax when The ceremonies and would be the Guardian was awarded the prize first to admit that, whether they of newspaper of the year. There are celebrating public relations, were shouts and heckles as marketing, music or corporate many people booed the editor of video, there is often a bit of the winning paper all the way to heckling and the odd light-

As the main part of the evening drew to a close, I looked forward to wandering over to the bar for a chat with some old friends. Sadly, that had to wait a while as Neil Wallis, the editor of The People insisted on taking the stage and launching a full-scale attack on the "broadsheet

bastards" who had "robbed" The Mirror of its accolade, and generally oppressed the tabloids. Even though I sympathised with his position, I couldn't forget how the tabloids had criticised Jarvis Cocker for a similar protest at

the Brit awards. By the time I reached the bar, tension was mounting. Sensibly, the few women at the ceremony had retreated into the corners of the room. I have always found it

fascinating that men, who dominate the industry, have managed to propagate a myth that semor women in journalism are catty, bitchy and unsympathetic to the camaraderie of their honourable profession.

So it seemed to prove a point that while the women were laughing and enjoying themselves chatting to their colleagues on rival papers, the men were getting aggressive and jostling each other. They weren't even funny with their drunken abuse of one another.

As I talked to a friend, a journalist walked by and snarled that he was surprised to see that person there. One senior female executive commented to me: "I

feel as if I've stumbled into a stag night that has gone wrong. The worst thing is that my own editor. one of the meest guys you could possibly meet, has completely changed character in the last

half-hour." I went back to the bar to talk to Stuart Higgins, the former editor of The Sun. Around us. at least two fights broke out, blood began to flow, and I saw one of the glass awards - the receipt of which is supposedly the highpoint of a journalist's career smash into pieces on the floor. I left, thus missing other low points, such as the two editors who squared up to each other

and chanted playground insults. The next day I spoke again to Stuart. He said: "If last night's

events had happened at a showbiz or footballers' party, we would have stuck it on the front nage of The Sun under the headline: 'Savages'. As it is, I don't think I'm going again." Instead, there was just the odd paragraph here and there in

newspaper diaries. I know how Stuart feels. I was left feeling sorry for Philippa, who put a lot of effort into ensuring that the night was a success. But, worse, I was stunned to see the cream of British journalism behaving with

so little grace. It is time the gentlemen who inhabit the Street of Shame ask themselves a few searching questions before they tell the rest of the world how to put their houses in order.

The author is corporate affairs director of the Virgin Group

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# This ad is good for you

ome things divide us and others make us all the same. Well, three things, really. As Benjamin Franklin might bave said, we will always be united by death, taxes, and our admiration for Guinness advertising.

Unfortunately, the hold the third of these has traditionally enjoyed over our collective consciousness has taken something of a beating in the last couple of years. But latterday salvation has come in the form of two striking TV commercials of genuinely cinematic proportions.
"Swimback", which features an

ageing Italian swimmer in a race against a pint of Guinness, has just been named ad of the year at the British Television Advertising Awards. The follow-up, filmed in a hazy black and white and finished off by the same post-production facility that worked on Titanic, tracks a group of surfers waiting for the ultimate wave. The company that announced it-

self to the British drinking public in 1929 with the bold, brave and ultimately unsubstantiated slogan Guinness is Good For You; the company whose "Man With a Girder" poster now has pride of place in the Victoria & Albert museum; the company that introduced a obscure Dutch actor named Rutger Hauer to a perplexed and thoroughly pleased British public - that same company suddenly started, in advertising terms, to bave a very hard time of

The first hiccup arrived along with an incomprehensible (well, even more incomprehensible than usual) TV campaign directed by the maverick film director Tony Kaye, Shot in black and white, these films eschewed the conventional product shot favoured by most ads. Instead we got a pensioner, pictured at bome with his budgle, his goldfish and a pair of false teeth stored proudly in a jar.

We watched the old man dressing methodically for a wedding and then the Pete Townsend quote "Hope I Die Before I get Old" flasb up on to the screen. We saw the action then cut quickly to the steps of a register office. Again we saw the old man. only this time be was pictured arm in arm with his new wife. a heavily pregnant blonde wbo couldn't possibly have been much more than a quarter of his age.

The strapline for this ad, as for the whole campaign, simply read "Not Everything in Black And White Makes Sense". It also left a nation. tricity in Guinness advertising, scratching its collective head.

Two departures quickly followed. Tony Kaye ducked out of ad directing and beaded for Hollywood to make his first feature film, American History X. Meanwhile the Guinness advertising account left Ogilvy & commercials old. But already it has with merely serviceable advertising, there, this time in Hawaii. But the continue."

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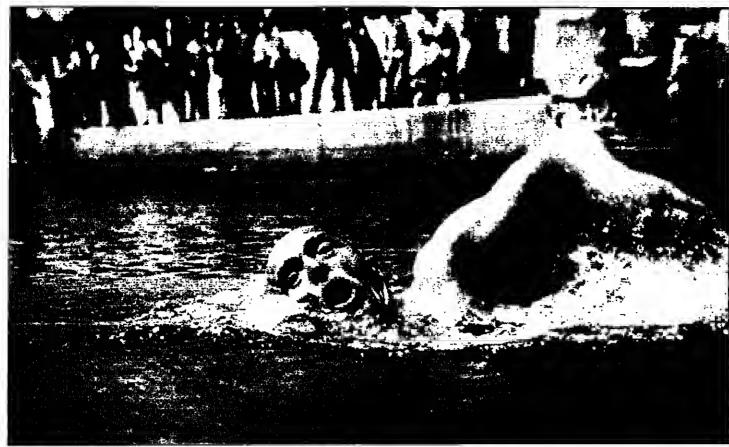
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career prospects.



'Swimback', featuring an ageing Italian swimmer racing against a pint of Guinness has just been named ad of the year

Mather, only its fourth ad agency in 72 years, in favour of Abbott Mead Vickers, the BT to Volvo shop that is now the largest in the UK.

They arrived a year ago at a time when Guinness was undergoing considerable corporate upbeaval as part of the creation of Diageo Iformed by the merger of Guinness and Grand Met] and they came with an ambitious plan to make Guinness a brand with a 10 per cent share of the UK beer market within 10 years," explains Hugh Derek, who now looks after the account at AMV. Unfortunately, Guinness had only 4.5 per cent of market share.

But then, the brand was at a cross-roads. For years it had occupied a distinct place in the nation's bars by virtue of the simple fact that it wasn teither lager or bitter. Its advertising - from the chess set favoured by Rutger Hauer to the Toucan invented by the crime writer Dorothy L Savers - merely had to feature the colours black and white to get its point of difference across. Things are no longer so simple. There are now, whisper it in Park Royal or Dublin, other stout brands available on the market.

"Our job was to reinforce the Guinness being viewed simply as a Parker and by Ridley Bladerunner quiet Sunday afternoon pint," says Derek. "We wanted to make the brand more youthful, to get more of new commercials have already surfing who looked just right." the St Patrick's Day feeling into breathed new life into a brand that Guinness-drinking all year round."

restored a nation's faith in the lt is no coincidence that both of them efficacy of Guinness advertising. and has pushed the dark drink's market share through the magical 5 per cent barrier.

The first achieved this despite starring a sixty-something, bald Italian swimmer with the build of Mussolini and a nifty line in retro swimming-trunks. It was the most successful ad, AMV insists, that Guinness has ever shown. The latest ad - released earlier this month looks by contrast like something out of the Calvin Klein archive, with its grainy black-and-white images of

were directed by the UK's hottest new directing talent, Jonathan Glazer. Appropriately enough, he left the latest two-week Guinness shoot in Hawaii to start work in Spain on his first feature film, Sexy Beast, a gangster movie starring Ray Winstone and produced by The Last Em-

peror's Jeremy Thomas. There was a sense of working within this great advertising tradition but what I liked most was the fact that Guinness leave you with the freedom to bring your own lyricism to your film," explains Glazer. "They surfers waiting to catch the cas- really want to make great advertis-

take eight weeks.

Now, Delacroix, Titanic and bot young directors are not the staples of most new advertising campaigns, Guinness is different. But then, Guinness's best advertising has always revelled in that difference.

main thing there was that I wanted

to create not just a Fifties look, hut

also a sort of Delacroix effect, which

after a month in the same post-pro-

duction facility that took care of

Titanic. The ad itself took a Titanic-

like whole year to make it to the

screen from the moment it was

first presented to the client. Most ads

The horses, in fact, were supplied

was where the horses came in."

I think the new work, and certainly the swimmer racing bome against the time the drink is being poured, are right up there with the very best Guinness ads," concedes Robert Campbell, a creative partner at one of London's most exciting ad agencies, the Virgin to Vauxhall shop Rainey Kelly Campbell Roalfe.

# Perfect jobs for boys (and girls)

Today, children want to grow up to be football journalists. By Rhys Williams

IT BEGAN with a classified ad a fortnight ago. "Britain's leading football magazine," it read, "has a very rare opening for a staff writer... What you need is an unrelenting fascination with the world's greatest game and the desire and dedication to become an excellent magazine writer. What you do not need is a vast amount of experience or to be a man."

Nearly a thousand CVs (971 to be exact) and covering letters have since been hauled across the threshold of FourFourTwo's offices in Teddington, west of London.

"We're beginning to wonder whether this is the most popular joh ever advertised, says Matt Tench, the editor, who is trimming, the initial 971

to an interview shortlist of 15. As the ad says, the joh will entail everything from bigname interviews to features and checking next month's television fixtures. And all for a salary of less than £20,000. It will be for love, not money.

Des Lynam once said that if you're no good at sport then you end up writing about it, adding that be opted for television because be couldn't write. But you get Des's point. Short of playing for a living, what greater pleasure can there be for a football nut than being paid to indulge the obsession by becoming a football writer?

But the extraordinary enthusiasm that has poured through FourFourTwo's letterbox is about more than a fan's love for the game. The legion of applications says something about the status the game occupies, particularly as a sphere of media endeavour.

It is the sort of response that a couple of decades ago would bave greeted an ad for a job at the NME or Melody Maker. The rock'n'roll of the time, was, well, rock'n'roll, a scene that stood for creative endeavour, glamour and a lot of money. Today football has that privilege.

Italia '90, the Taylor report, the all-seater stadia it spawned and the bundreds of millions of pounds that television tipped into the trough have all played English game of the grimy associations that reached a nadir with the disaster at Belgium's Heysel stadium.

The game has now been cleansed, purified and, like the favoured tipple of a Chelsea

season ticket holder, gently carbonated.

All that bas changed the way the game is written about. Players and managers greet with suspicion any suggestion of an intellectualisation of the game. However, there is no doubt that Nick Hornby's Fever Pitch and the My Favourite Year anthology he later edited legitimised football as a quasiliterary phenomenon.

But the major change has been wrought by the influence of the fanzines, particularly When Saturday Comes. Since its launch in 1987 WSC recognised that the world of football was not confined to the 90 minutes of action, groin



strains or boardroom machinations that had hitherto preoccupied media coverage. Instead, it recognised that football was life-consuming. Noting that the title was borrowed from an Undertones song, Hornby wrote of WSC: "How did these people know that football and pop music were the two most important things in life?"

Several fanzine writers have since moved on to nationals -John Duncan and Amy Lawrence (a former FourFourTwo staffer) are both at The Observer, while Harry Pearson writes for The Guardian. But fanzines' major contribution is to imbue football journalism with wit, enthusiasm and interest, to square the game with the preoccupations of the fan. Now newspapers are also prepared to discuss sense and the music that leads teams on to the pitch (Z Cars at Everton, for instance).

The message today is that anyone can do this, even if at FourFourTwo that someone is one in a thousand.

FAX: 0171 293 2505

#### ing again. So they let us get away cading 40ft waves. Then suddenly,

Already the campaign has restored a nation's

though the magic of television, the waves are transformed into a succession of thundering white horses. Both ads are beautifully filmed,

Scott, among others. Their solution is just two first time, what it is like to make do the surfing film, again we cast it out it's promoting. And long may that

with our obsessive attention to detail without going on about the budget or whatever, like some clients. For the swimmer film, for instance, but then there is nothing new there. we knew we wanted a guy that Guinness ads of the past have been looked a bit like Mussolini but we directed by Hugh Chariots of Fire didn't know bow to find him. In the just wandered out along the beach campaigns. For Volkswagen, for and lined up more than 300 random instance, the advertising starts with More importantly, though, the Italians before seeing this guy wind- the fact that here is a great car. Guin-

faith in the efficacy of Guinness advertising

"The campaign had lost its way and these bring us back to the sort of Guinness advertising we expect. But then I always think there is something strange about Guinness compared to almost every other of ness is the only thing I can think of "He didn't speak any English, but where the advertising has always had started to taste, almost for the seemed well up for the role. Then in been miles better than the product

#### APPOINTMENTS: MEDIA, MARKETING, SALES

#### RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL

.....

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an ability to work under on-going pressure is essenual. A sound understanding of statistics and spreadsheets is crucial and a proven track record in co-ordinating a team is also necessary. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the general management, progress, planning and development of the project. Remuneration for this demanding role

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mantha Robinson Human Resources Department Research International 

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# THE INFORMATION DAILY

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Two Nineties teenagers are magicked into the world of

dramatic influence on its conformist black-and-white

Gods and Monsters (15)

A droll speculation on the last days of 1930s

is magnetised by the form of his gardener

Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay.

idyll. A witty, inventive parable.

Danish director Thomas

Vinterberg's superlative black

comedy (right) centres on the

patriarch who finds himself at the

in an Oscar-winning performance.

Shakespeare in Love (15)

60th birthday of a family

heart of dark secrets that

unexpectedly emerge.

Affliction (15)

for Romeo and Juliet.

Pleasantville (12)

Festen (15)

horror mueur James Whale (Ian McKellen), who

(Brendan Fraser): Director Bill Condon won an

a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a

Pani Schrader's bleak study in fatherbood and

fatalism stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to

escape the influence of his violent dad - James Coburn,

This enjoyable, multi-Oscar winning film suggests how

ANTHONY QUINN

Mighty Joe 12,45pm, 3,30pm Payback 1.40pm, 4,20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Shakespeare in Love 6.15pm, 9,10pm The Thin Red Line 1,25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm La Vita è Bella 3,50pm, 6,35pm, 9,20pm Waking Néd 2pm, 4,25pm, 6,50pm, 9,25pm

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE .

(08705-050007) + Leicester Square The Thin Red Line

12,40pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH

ODEON MEZZANINE

**ODEON SWISS COTTAGE** 

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA

RENOIR (0171-837 8402) & Russell

(0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

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#### **NEW FILMS**

AMERICAN HISTORY X (18) Director: Tony Kaye

Starring: Edward Norton, Edward Furlong Disowned by its director, re-edited by its star, American History X was always going to look messy, a film in bits and pieces. A liberal essay on right-wing fanaticism, this nonetheless indulges in some dubious Nazi chic as it charts the moral slide and spasmodic conversion of a blue-collar racist (Edward Norton), watched by his adoring younger brother. The flashbacks sometimes jar, and the plot turns are clankingly handled. What binds it together is a genuine tour de force from Oscar-nominated Norton, whose full-throttle muscularity clearly scared wavering Academy members over to the

more sunny charms of Roberto Benigni. West End: Clapham Picture House, Odeon Comden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Ligitage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

AN AUTUMN TALE (CONTE D'AUTOMME) (U) Director: Eric Rohmer

Starring: Beatrice Romand, Alain Libolt The final part of Rohmer's Tales of the Four Seasons is at once airily elegiac and as warm as sunshine. Magali (Beatrice Romand) - middle-aged and single - gets ushered through all manner of hoops as her friends try to set her up with eligible men, nudging her first towards suave college professor (Didier Sandre), then towards a lonelyhearts respondent (the brilliant Alain Libolt) as the web of intrigue turns progressively more tangled. Don't be put off by the Mills and Boon plot-line. Rohmer's latest is a veritable masterpiece of dabbed-on colours, fluid squiggles and huminous washes. Its little gestures speak volumes; its easy soul takes the breath away.

West End: Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema, Eurzon Soho, Renoir, Repertory: Phoenix Cinema, The Pullman Everyman

**GODS AND MONSTERS (15)** 

AFFLICTION (15)

West End: ABC Swiss Centre

West End: Metro, Renoir

ARLINGTON ROAD (15)

And local cinemas

CENTRAL STATION (15)

the boy's missing father.

West End: Curzon Soho

Arts Centre

RELOVED (15)

See The Independent Recommends, right, West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Fulham Road, Local: New Stratford Picture House

See The Independent Recommends, above.

a finale that's both ridiculous and charming.

Mark Pellington's paranoia thriller sees Jeff

Bridges' college professor becoming suspicious

about his "respectable" neighbour (Tim Robbins).

Pellington is big on skewed camera angles, yet rings

West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham

Picture House, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Swiss

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's

A road-movie of sorts, Central Station trails

her abandoned nine-year-old charge on a hunt for

West End: Curzon Mayfair, Notting Hill Coronet,

Renoir, Ritzy Cinema. Repertory: Watermans

FESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (151

among the tourist-brochure visuals.

no more than an eccentric game.

A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above.

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK(15)

Shirley Valentine with an Afro-American spin:

Angela Bassett works hard to make an impression

West End: Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA È BELLA) (PG)

In Roberto Benigni's Oscar-winning comedy, the

writer-director takes centre stage as a clownish

lewish bookseller in fascist Italy. Sent to a death-camp, he strives to convince his son that it's all

West End: Empire Leicester Square, Curzon Minema, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine,

Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI

Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket

Repertory: Phoenix Cinema. And local cinemas

John Fortenberry's indulgent abowcase for

Sabarday Night Live favourites Will Ferrell and Chris

Kattan is so bovine it moos. Here come our imbe-

cilic heroes: cruising the mall-spaces of LA, while

West End: Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

distillation of the ultimate Robin Williams movie:

West End: Empire Leicester Square, Virgin

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Swiss

Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

the life sucked out and replaced by syrup.

See The Independent Recommends, above.

Trocadero, And local cinemas

one ham fisted comedy sequence follows another: air-brushed for its own good.

This medical drama is like the ultimate Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West

Cottage, Plana, Rilry Cinema, Virgin Haymarket, West End: Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero,

Pulitzer Prize-winner stars Oprah Winfrey.

West End: Ritzy Cinema. And local cinemas

Road Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End cinemas

too few changes in the film's familiar territory.

MIGHTY JOE (PG)

Director: Ron Underwood Starring: Bill Paxton, Charlize Theron

Mighty Joe is a mutant gorilla - King Kong with a smile - who hangs out in the jungles of Africa with his Tarzan-type protector (Charlize Theron), Enter zoologist Bill Paxton, who decides to spirit Joe to California, at which point Ron Underwood's holiday jaunt diverts down standard chase-genre avenues. Disposable Disney fluff, which boasts a ready charm that's hard to dislike.

West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, And local cinemas

PAYBACK (18) Director: Brian Helpeland

Starring: Mel Gibson This rumbling revenge thriller sends its doublecrossed-and-left-for-dead anti-hero (Mel Gibson) on a mission to retrieve the money he's owed, and get even into the bargain. The ensuing shenanigans are played out in a kind of retro-chic Seventies and underpinned by a busy jazz-funk soundtrack. Ambling through the saga, Gibson rubs lots of designer grime into his clean-cut screen image. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero,

Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE RUGRATS MOVIE (U) Director: Igor Kovalyov

**SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)** 

War drama, starring Tom Hanks.

GENERAL RELEASE

Nanni Moretti's Aprile freewheels through three SEUL CONTRE TOUS (18)

Voices: E.G Daily, Christine Cavanaugh Given the small-screen success of the 'rats, a feature-length foray was always in the offing. Neatly timed to hit the Easter hols, The Rugrats Movie shifts its horizons beyond the usual suburban homes and gardens. Here, the bairns find themselves adrift in a deep, dark forest, bonding with monkeys and tangling with a slavering wolf. Kids, no doubt, will eat this up. Adults should simply grin and bear it.

West End: Odeon Marble Arch, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

Steven Spielberg's Oscar-winning Second World

West End: Plaza Local: Croydon Fairfield Halls

abused his daughter. Less straight cinema than a

kind of whiplashing fairground ride, Seul

West End: Curzon Soho, Ritzy Cinema

See The Independent Recommends, above.

West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon

Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Terrence Malick's long-awaited return to the

A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart.

Douglas Henshall et al) weave to and fro through

David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance.

Haymarket, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green,

A bland and inconsequential bloodbath fresh-faced

teens meeting their grisly end in a drama as cold

West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village

Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering gross-

nowhere to go save from shrill to shriller to shrillest.

West End: ABC Piccadilly, Warner Village

Good news: Ned, a salt-of-the earth resident

of Tully in rural Ireland has won the lottery.

Bad news: Ned is dead. Cus a rattle-bag of

comedic misadventure as two local scallywags

scheme to get their paws on the loot. The film

has a zesty undertow of black comedy but is too

West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road.

Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House,

Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon

Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Then Hanks and Meg Ryan star in a romance zapoed

out of its rut by an Internet plot hook

and schematic as a daytima talk show.

Warner Village West End: And local cinemas

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

creeping narcotic mood.

Arts Centre. And local cinemas

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18)

URBAN LEGEND (18)

West End. And local cinemas

VERY BAD THINGS (18)

WAKING NED (PG)

And local cinemas

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

(0870-902 0402) & Tott Crt Rd Arlington Road 1,05pm, 3,25pm, 5,45pm, 8,40pm Elizabeth 5.45pm, 8.40pm Eu 1.40pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm

: 39 S eps (1935 Version) 1.10pm, 3.05pm, 5pm, 7.05pm, 9pm Affliction 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm La Vie Revee des Anges 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Contre Nous is an underniably attention-grabbing debut for the multi-talented director Gaspar Noé.

1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.55pm, 9.25pm Payback 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Waking Ned 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local BARBICAN SCREEN

Waking Ned 6.15pm, 8.40pm

director's chair is a fabulous, fever-struck war film. 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm While a cast of familiar faces (John Travolta, Nick CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

Nolte, George Clooney) vie for attention, all play a determined second fiddle to The Thin Red Line's West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Fernanda Montenegro's retired schoolmarm and Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Repertory: Watermans

> (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Central Station 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.15om, 8.45om

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) + Leicester Square La Vita è Bella 12noon, 2,45pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Patch Adams 6.20pm, 9pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm out comedy in a Loaded magazine style but it has GATE NOTTING HILL

(0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate Gods and Monsters 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9pm METRO

(0171-734 1506) → Picc Circ Aprile

3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Southpaw 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) & Notting Hill Gate Aritington Road 3.15pm, 8.35pm Central Station Spm

**ODEON CAMPEN TOWN** (08705-050007) ← Camden Town American History X 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Payback 11.45am, 2.05pm, 4.20pm, 6.35pm,

8.55pm Pleasantwille 12.20pm The Thin Red Line 3.20pm, 7.45pm This Year's Love 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm Walking Ned 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.45pm, 9pm ODEON HAYMARKET

Chelsea Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre. (08705-050007) & Piccadilly Circus This Year's Love 1.15pm. 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

ODEON KENSINGTON (08705-050007) & High Street Kensington American History X 12.40pm. 3.35pm. 6.30pm. 9.30pm A Bug's Life 12.55pm ing Ned 12noon, 2.10pm,

#### THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Troilus and Cressida (Olivier, NT, London)

**Gross Indecency** 

This play and this theatre are made for each other, a fact proved by the masterly sweep of Trevor Nunn's production. To 19 May

(Gielgud Theatre, London) The artfully fractured form of Moises Kaufman's compelling play about Oscar Wilde manages to

present the writer - man and symbol - in all his complex contradictoriness. Booking to 5 Jun Trust (Royal Court Upstairs at the Ambassadors, London)

It's not Protestants vs Catholics, but Protestants at violent odds with one another in Gary Mitchell's timely and involving Ulster thriller. To 3 Apr Volpone

(Swan Theatre, Stratford) Comedies don't come any funnier or more astringent than Ben Jonson's brilliant dissection of avaricious, over-reachine egotism (right). To 9 Oct

The Late Middle Classes (Palace Theatre, Watford)

The fruitful collaboration between Simon Gray and romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration Harold Pinter continues with the latter's production of Gray's dark comedy, set in Fifties England. To 10 Apr

PAUL TAYLOR

#### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery) Big retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism (going on Old Master). The build-up is slow and the end is sorry, but the brief "drip" period deserves every superlative. To 6 Jun

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever. Exquisite melanger of flesh and fabric, dreams of sex and money. To 25.4pr

Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gal)ery) The modern object-world made luminous (right). Caulfield is a virtuoso of many styles, and this retrospective offers the range notably those fat, laconic outlines flooded with translucent colour, To 11 Apr

Andreas Gursky (Dean Gallery, Edinburgh) Photographs 1994-98: huge, panoramic, high-finish, micro-detailed, digitally-manipulated images of our world - stock-exchange floor, cityscape, hotel foyer. To 16 May

**Aubrey Beardsley** (Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool) The short and brilliant career of the 1890s aesthete and illustrator, with his masterful blacks and whites and his

uniquely sinuous, florid line. To 11 .4pr

TOM LUBBOCK

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) 8R: Feltham Aa Ab Laut

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## **CINEMA**

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322) ← Picc Gross Loved 6.25pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 8.45pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

**ABC SWISS CENTRE** years in Italian politics. Impossible to pigeonbole, A sociopathic butcher (Phillipe Nahon) is pushed (0870-902 0403) & Piccadilly

> ARC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road Gods and Monsters

(0171-638 8891) Moorgate
Conte d'Automne 6.15pm, 8.40pm

(0171-351 3742) Sloane Square Conte d'Automne 1.35pm, ODEON WEST END

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE
(0171-498 3323) & Clapham
Common American History X
1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm
Arlington Road 1.15pm, 4pm,
6.30pm, 9pm Gods and Monsters
2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm
Walking Ned 1.30pm, 3.30pm,
5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm

**CURZON MINEMA** (0171-359 1723) & Hyde Park Comer/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bells 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm CHEZON SOHO

(0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm)) O 17-739 A 2233 (27) O 18-75 O

(0171-733 2229) BR/® Briston American History X 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.30pm Le Bossu 1.40pm A Bug's Life 11.30am Central Station 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 6.55pm Pieasantville 9.20pm Seut Contre Tous 4pm, 6pm Shakespeare in Love 4.15pm, 9.15pm The Thin Red Line 8pm La Vitta & Bella 1.45pm, 6.45pm Waking Ned 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

(0171-935 2772) Baker Street La Vita è Bella 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Waking Ned 3pm, 5pm,

(0171-226 3520) → Angel Waking Ned 3.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ⊕ Belsize Park Gods and Monsters 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm

UCI WHITELEYS (0990-883990) O Bayswater Shakespeare in Love 12,30pm, 3,20pm, 6,20pm, 9,05pm The Thin Red Line 8.40pm La Vita è Bella 12.15pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

Square American History X 12.30pm. 3pm. 6pm, 8.45pm A Bug's Life 11.40am, 1.50pm Madeline 12.30pm The Rugrats Movie 11.20am, 1.30pm. History X Morie 11.20am, 1.30pm. 3.40pm, 5.50pm, 8pm La Vita è Bella 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Waking Ned 12.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.55pm, 8.30pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

(0870-907 0711) & South Kensington Arlington Road 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Gods and Monsters 1.10pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Payback 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@ll 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8pm ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) 

Marble Arch
Mighty Joe 12.50pm, 3.20pm
5.55pm Payback 1.15pm, 3.45pm
6.30pm, 9.10pm The Rugrats
Movie 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm,
6.30pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare In
Love 12.55pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm,
9.05pm The Thin Red Line
8.20pm Walking Ned 1.05pm,
3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm VIRGIN HAYMARKET

(0870-907 0712) & Piccadilly Circus American History X 2.20pm, 6.15pm, 9pm La Vita è (08705-050007) & Leicester Sq A Bug's Life 2.25pm, 4.30pm, Bella 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.50pm Pleasantville 2pm, 4.50pm, 8pm VIRGIN TROCADERO

6.35pm, 8.45pm Elizabeth 12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm La Vita è Belia 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, (0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus Arlington Road 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm A Bug's Life 12noon, 2.10pm A Night at 6.20pm, 8.45pm 5tepmom 12.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm the Roxbury 4.55pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm Patch Adams 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Payback 12noon, 2.55pm, 5.55pm, 8.55pm The Rugrats Movie 11.40am, 1.35pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm, 7.45pm Arlington Road 3.05pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 1.05pm Mighty Joe 12.45pm. 3.25pm, 5.55pm Payback 1.15pm, 3.45pm. 6.15pm, 8.45pm Pleasambrille 8.30pm Shakespeare In Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm Waking Ned 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm You've Got M@ii 12.05pm, 2.50pm, 5.35pm, 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Sq American History X 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm 9pm Arlington Road 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm A Bug's Life 12.20pm, 9.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Opposite of Sex 12.10pm, 2.40pm, 5.05pm, 7.25pm, 9.45pm Pauhack 11.30pm, 10pm, (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Little Voice 8.55pm Mighty Joe Spm Waking Ned 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9pm 2.40pm, 5.05pm, 7.25pm, 9.45pm Payback 11.30am, 1pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm Pleasantville 3pm, 5.50pm The Rugrats Movie 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Urban Legend 7.10pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@fi 3.30pm, (0171-494 4153) + Piccadilly Circus Blue Planet 12.35pm Everest 4.45pm, 9.05pm (+ Short: More) LS 4.45mt, 9.05mt (+ Snort More) L5
- The First City in Space (3-D)
2.40pm, 7pm T-Roc Back to the
Cretaceous (3-D) 11.30am, 1.35pm,
3.40pm, 5.50pm, 8pm, 10.10pm 6.10pm, 8.50pm

#### **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PLAZA (0990-888990) & Piccadilly Circus Arfangton Road 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm. 8.45pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 12ncon. 2pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 12.15pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm ACTON PARK
ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181896 0066) © Park Royal American
History X 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm,
9.10pm Antz 11.10am Arlington
Road 11.20am, 2pm, 4.40pm.
7.20pm, 9.50pm A Bug's Life
12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm Jack
Frost 11.30am Madeline 11am
Mighty Joe 12.10pm, 3pm.
5.50pm, 8.30pm Patch Adams
4.20pm, 10pm Payback 1.20pm,
4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Picesantville 6.30pm The Prince of
Egypt 12.30pm The Rugrats Movie
10.50am, 12.50pm, 2.50pm,
4.50pm. 6.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm,
6.10pm. 9pm The Thin Red Line **ACTON PARK** Squere Aprile 4.40pm, 9pm Conte d'Automne 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Central 5tation 1.20pm, 6.40pm speare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 9.20pm Waking Ned 2,40pm, 5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm You've Got M@II 1.40pm, 7pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & High Barnet Arilington Road 3.40pm. 8.45pm A Bug's Life 12.45pm Mighty Joe 12.45pm. 3pm. 6pm. 8.30pm Payback 1.30pm. 3.30pm. 7pm, 9pm The Rugrats Movie 12noon, 2pm, 3.45pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 1.20pm, 6.25pm Waking Ned 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9pm

ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Becken-ABL (08/0-902 0412) BRC Betternham Junction Amistad 11am
A Bug's Life 2.15pm, 4.20pm
Madeline 3.45pm Payback 1.10pm,
6pm, 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie
1,45pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm
Shakespeare in Love 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 7.40pm

REXI EVHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) ER: Bedevheath Arlington Road 7.25pm, 9.50pm A Bug's Life 11am, 1pm. 3.05pm, 5.15pm lack Frost 11am Madeline 12.10pm. 2,10pm Mighty Joe 11,30am, 2pm, 4,30pm, 7pm, 9,30pm Patch Adams 12noon, 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Paybock 1.15pm, 3.25pm, 5.35pm, 6.50pm, 7.50pm, 10pm Pleasantville 5.10pm, 9.50pm The Rugrats Movie 11.10am, 12.10pm, 5pm, 7pm Shakespeare in Love 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 9pm Making Ned 12.05pm, 2.05pm, 4.05pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm, 10.05pm You've Got M@ill 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 7.30pm Parch Adams 12noon, 2.25pm. 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 7.30pm

ODEON (08705-050007) BR: Brom-ley North A Bug's Life 12noon, 2,05pm Madeline 12noon Mighty Joe 200pm Manacine 12:00n Wegity Se-lpm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Pay-back 2.25pm, 5.45pm, 8.35pm The Rugrats Movie 12:20pm, 2.35pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Welking Ned-ABC (0181-461 1278) 8R: Catford

A Bug's. Life 12.30pm Payback 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6pm Urban Legend 8.40pm

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) 8R: East Croydon Hideous Kinky 3.45pm 5hakespeare in Love FAIRFIELD HALLS (0181-688 9291)

8R: East Croydon Saving Private Ryan 7.45pm The Siege 7.45pm SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 8pm Mighty Joe 5.30pm A Night at the Rodbury 8.10pm The Rugrats Movie 5.40pm The Thin Red Line 7.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Arlington Road 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 9.50pm, 6.10pm Mighty Joe 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Patch Adams 4pm, 9.40pm Pay-back 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.30pm The Rugrats Movle 1.30pm, 4.50pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The Thin Red Line 8.25pm Waking Ned 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@il 1.20pm, 6.40pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020)

Dagenham Heathway American History X 1.55pm, 4.35pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Antz 12midnlght Artington Road 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm A Bug's Life 11am, 1.20pm, 3.50pm Jack Frost 11.55am Madeline 10.40am Mighty Joe 11.10am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Patch Adams 4.40pm, 9.50pm Payback 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 6pm The Prince of Egypt 11.50pm The Rugrats Movie 10.50am, 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 4.30pm, 8.35pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 8.40pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020)

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-Virigin UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-907 0719) BR/9- Ealing Broadway Arlington Road 8.30pm Mighty Joe 2.15pm, 5pm Payback 2.05pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm The Rugrats Movie 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm Shakespeare in Love 8.10pm

LEE VALLEY UC: 12 (0990-

888990) & Tottenham Hale American History X 1pm, 3.50pm. 6.45pm, 9.40pm Arlington Road 12.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm Beloved 9pm A Bug's Life 11am, 12noon, 1.10pm, 2.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 8.50pm Jack Frost 10.30am Made-tine: 11.15am, 1.20pm, 3.30pm Mighty Joe 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Patch Adams 5pm, 8.45pm Pacch Adams 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Payback 11am, 1.25pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.30pm The Rugrats Movie 10.45am, 11.30am, 12.45pm, 1.45pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5.15pm, 6.10pm, 7.30pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 3.05pm, 6.25pm. 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 4.30pm. 8.10pm La Vita è Bella 5.40pm. 8.30pm Waking Ned 11.45am, 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm

**ELEPHANT AND CASTLE** CORONET (0171-703 O Elephant and Castle Arlington Depring and Case Arrington Road 6pm. 8.30pm A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 3.30pm Madeline 2pm Mighty Joe 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Payback 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 8.40pm, 8.40pm

Chalen 2.50pm, 9.10pm Aarzoo 11.30am, 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.45pm American History X 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Blast From the Past 11.30am, 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm A Bug's Life 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.50pm, 2.50pm, 4pm, 5pm Daag 11.20am, 6pm International Khiladi 12.20pm, 3.40pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Jack Frost 11.40am Made-9.30pm Jack Frost 11.40am Made-line 11.40am, 1.40pm Mighty Joe 11.10am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm A Night at the Roxbury 10pm Patch Adams 11.40am, 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Payback 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 7.50pm, 9.20pm, 10pm Pleasantville 11.10am, 1.40pm The Regrate Movile 11am, 1.20pm The Rugrats Movie 11am, 12non, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 6.10pm, 9.30pm, 4.30pm, Ned 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.50cm, 9pm, 2.30pm, 6ct. Movie Cost. Mo

6.50pm, 9pm You've Got M@il 12noon, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.3 FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 Life 10.30am, 12.50pm, 3.20pm Jack Frost 10.30am Madeline 11.20am Mighty Joe 10.30am, 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 7pm Patch Adams 3.30pm, 9.20pm Payback 2.10pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Pleasantville 5.40pm The Prince of Emer. 10.35pm. The Prince of Egypt 10.35am The Rugrats Movie 11am, 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 8.30pm La Vita e Bella 9.40pm

12.40pm, 6.20pm ABC (0181-455 4134) → Golders Green Payback 6.10pm, 8.35pm The Rugrats Movie 2pm, 4pm

Waking Ned 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Arlington Road 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Mighty Joe 4pm, 6.15pm Payback 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 8.30pm

VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) - Raven-MikGIN (0870-907 0718) & Ravenscourt Park A Bug's Life 12.40pm Mighty Joe 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm Payback 3.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The Rugrats Movie 11.20am, 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 5.50pm, 8pm Shakespeare in Love 8.40pm Waking Ned 1.30pm, 3.40pm.

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-902 0413) Belsize Park American History X 2.45pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm La Vita è Bella 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 2pm, 4pm, 6pm Shake-Movie 2pm, 4pm, 6p speare in Love 8.15pm

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) O Harrow-on-the-Hill Arzoo 8.45pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun..! 1.30pm. 5pm Zakhm 1.30pm. 5pm, 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) & Harrow-on-the-Hill Amer-lean History X 1,10pm, 3,55pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm Arlington Road 12.10pm, 3.05pm, 6.05pm, 9pm A Bug's Life 11.50am, 1.15pm, 3.40pm Mighty Joe 1.70pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Parch Adams 4pm, 9.40pm Payback 11,10am, 1,40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Pleasantville 6pm The Ruprats Movie 12noon, 2,10cm, 2,10cm,

Rugrats Movie 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 8.50pm Shake-speare in Love 12.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 8.40pm Waking Ned 11.10am, 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@II 1.10pm, 6.40pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & Holloway Road Artington Road 6.05pm, 8.40pm Beloved 7.45pm A Bug's Life 12.05pm, 2pm, 4pm Madeline 12noon Mighty Lee 1 nm Madeline 12noon Mighty Joe 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Payback 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm The Rugrats Movie 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 6pm, 8.35pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.20pm, 7.50pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm You've Got M@il 12.20pm.

## 1-3-12-64 4.5 9-21-Sec. 3. 2



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**ILFORD ODEON** (08705-050007) **↔** Gants Hill A Bug's Life 11.55pm, 1.55pm, 3.55pm Mighty Joe 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Parch Adams 5.55pm, 8.25pm Payback 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12 nonn. 2.10pm. 4.20pm. 6.30pm, 8.45pm Waking Ned 12.40pm, 3.20pm. 5.40pm, 8.35pm

TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn Waking Ned 7pm, 9.15pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) 8R: Kingston A Bug's Life 1.05om. 3.10pm, 5.15pm Payback 1.10pm. 3.30pm. 6.05pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 1.40pm, 3.50pm. 6pm Shakespeare in Love 8.05pm The Thin Red Line 7.20pm

**MUSWELL HILL** ODEON (08705-050007) → Highgate A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.30pm Hilary and Jackle 8.30pm Mighty Joe 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Payback 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm The Thin Red Line 4.35pm, 7.50pm

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Perkham Rye American History X 4pm, 6.35pm. 9.10pm Arlington Road 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Beloved 8.30pm Mighty Joe 2.30pm, 5pm Payback 4.35pm. 6.50pm, 9.15pm The Rugrats Movie 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.25pm, 8.25pm Waking Ned 2.45pm, 4.50pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm

ABC (0870-902 0407) BR: Purley Arlington Road 8.10pm A Bug's Life 5.25pm Mighty Joe 5.45pm The Rugrats Movie 5.10pm The Thin Red Line 7.10pm La Vita e Bella 8.15pm

ABC (0870-902 0401) & Putney Bridge A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.25pm Payback 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm Shake-speare in Love 8.15pm The Thin Red

ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O-Richmond Madeline 12:000 Mighty Joe 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Payback 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Waking Ned 1,30pm, 4pm, 70m, 9.20pm 7pm, 9.30pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007) BR/9 Richmond Arlington Road 6.40pm, 9.15pm A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3.30pm The Rugrats Movie 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare In Love 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 1.10pm, 4.40pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@il 1.40pm

ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Romford Arlington Road 8,20pm A Bug's Life 1,30pm Patch Adams 1,40pm Payback 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 2.10pm, 3.50pm, 5.30pm The Thin Red Line

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705-050007) BR: Romford Arlington Road 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.05pm Made-ime 12,45pm Mighty Joe 12,30pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm A Night at the Roxbury 12,45pm Patch Adams 2,45pm, 5,45pm, 8.25pm Payback 12,50pm, 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8,40pm, The Pugrate Movies 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 12.05pm, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.25pm. 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.35pm. 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm Waking Ned 12.15pm, 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm You've Got M@il 5.20pm, 8.35pm

ABC (0541-555131) 8R: Sideup Arlington Road 8.15pm A Bug's Life 12.30pm Payback 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cdcklewood Arlington Road 6.45pm, 9.15pm, A Bug's Life 11.4Sam, 2pm, 4.15pm Madeline 11.50am zpm. 4.15pm Madeline 11.50am Mighty Joe 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Payback 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm The Rugrats Movie 11.30am, 1.30pm, .45pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 6pm. 8.50pm Waking Ned

NEW PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR & Stratford Arlington Road 8.55pm A Bug's Life 12 15pm 2.15pm Gods and Mon-12.15pm, 2.15pm Gods and Mon-sters 8.35pm Jack Frost 12.10pm Mighty Joe 11 55am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm Payback 2.15pm. 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm The Rugrats Movie 11.30am, 1.20pm, 3.10pm, 5pm, 6.50pm Waking Ned 4.15pm, 6.25pm, 9pm STREATHAM

ABC (0870-902 0415) BR: Streatham Hill Aritington Road 2.35pm, 5.45pm, 8.35pm Patch Adams 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm Shakespeare in Love 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm

ODEON (08705-050007) BR: 5treartism Hill O Brixton American History X 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm, Beloved 7.40pm A Bug's Life 11 50.am, 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 5.45pm Madeline 12.50pm Mighty Joe 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Payback 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Waking Ned 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm

**SURREY OUAYS** American History X 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Arlington 4 20pm. 7pm. 9.45pm Arlangton Road 6 10pm. 9.10pm A Bug's Life 11.30am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm Hideous Kinky 12 30pm. 3.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Madeline 11.15pm, 1.15pm Mighty Joe 12.15pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Payback 11am, 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm The Rugrats Movie 10.45am, 11.45am, 12.45pm, 2pm, 3pm,

4pm, 515pm, 620pm, 7.20pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love Red Line 9.20pm Waking Ned 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/ O Morden Arlington Road 6.45pm, 9.45pm A Bug's Life 10.45am, 1pm, 3.30pm Hideous Kinky 6.50pm Mighty Joe 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm Payback 11am, 1.30pm

4.15pm, 7pm, 9.30pm The Rugrats Movie 11.30am, 1.45pm. 4pm. 6.15pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 9.15pm La Vita è Bella 9pm Madeline 1.15pm Waking Ned 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.45pm

**SWISS COTTAGE** WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3059) O Finchley Road Ariington Road 1,15pm, 3,50pm, 6,40pm, 9,20pm A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 3.55pm Mighty Joe 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Patch Adams 10.15pm Payback 2pm. 4.30pm. 7pm. 9.30pm Pleasantville 12.30pm. 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm

Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 6.05pm, 9.25pm Waking Ned 12.40pm, 2.55pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@il 3.20pm

ODEON (08705-050007) ← Usbridge Arlington Road 6.10pm, 8.45pm
A Bug's Life 11.50am, 2pm.
4.05pm Mighty Joe 1.20pm,
3.50pm, 6.20pm Patch Adams
8.50pm The Prince of Egypt 11.10am

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-902 0424) Walthamstow Central A Bug's Life 1.25pm, 3.30pm Payback 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 1.40pm, 3.40pm, 5.30pm Shakespeare in Love 5.40pm Slums of Beverty Hills 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 7.20pm

WALTON THE SCREEN (01932-252825) 8R: Walton on Thames The Rugrats Movie 2.40pm, 4.35pm, 6.35pm La Vita è Bella 8.30pm Walding Ned 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Etham A Bug's Life 2pm Payback 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm The Rugrats Movie 1.20pm, 3.30pm, 5.25pm, 7.10pm, 9pm WIMBLEDON

ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O Wimbledon A Bug's Life 11.35am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm Jack Frost 12noon Mighty Joe 11.35am, 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm Payback 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Rugrats Movie 12.15pm. 2.15pm. 4.15pm. 6.15pm. 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 7.30pm Waking Ned 2.30pm. 4.45pm. 6.45pm, 8.55pm

WOODF-ORD

ABC (0181-989 3463) © South
Woodford Arlington Road 8.10pm A
Bug's Life 1.40pm Payback 3.55pm.
6.10pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie
1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.25pm The Thin Red Line 7.25pm

NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) O Tumpike Lane Daag 8,45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 2pm Laa

WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 5.30pm Madeline 3.30pm Mighty Joe 1.10pm. 3.40pm, 6.10pm.

## **CINEMA**

ICA The Mall, SW1 (0171-930 3647) La Promesse (NC) 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Modulations (NC) 6.30pm, 8.45pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South Bank 5E1 (0171-928 3232) Snake Eyes (15] 2.30pm Those Magnif-icent Men in Their Flying Machines (U) 6pm Crossovers: Against the Mainstream: Seminar (NC) 6.15pm New Directions in Comedy: Television Programme (NC) 7.30pm Flight: Anything Goes (NC) 8.30pm Voices: Against the Mainstream: Avant Garde

PHOENIX High Rd, N2 (0181-444 6789) A Bug's Life (U) 11.10am Con-te d'Autonine (U) 1.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 3.40pm PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place. WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Big

Lebowski (18] 1.30pm Mulan (U) 4pm A Perfect Murder (15) 6.30pm The Mask of Zorro (PG) 8.55pm 8ush Vale, NW3 (0171-606 2345) Conte d'Automne (U) 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Conte d'Ete (PG) 6.30pm + A Winter's Tale 8.50pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176] Central Station (15)

5pm The Apple (Sib) (PG) 7pm Waking Ned (PG) 9pm DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503)

Angels with Dirty Faces (NC) 2.15pm Festen (15) 4.15pm. 5pm Four Little Girls (15) CUBE CINEMA (0114-907 4191)

Hideous Kinky (15) 6.30pm WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) The Petrified Forest (NC) 6pm Beloved (15) 7pm Gods and Mon-sters (15) 8.20pm

ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) lliam Shakespeare's Romeo + iet (12) 10.30am American History X (18) 2.30pm, 9.30pm Ma Vie en Rose (12) 5pm Eliza-beth (15) 7.10pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222) 399666] Via Satellite (NC) 7.30pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 8pm

IPSWICH FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Elizabeth (15) 2.30pm. 6pm Madeline (U) 2.30pm La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 6pm, 8.15pm Hilary and Jackie (15) 8.30pm

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Shakespeare in Love (15) 2.30pm.

5.30pm. 8.15pm PLYMOUTH

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (0) 752-206114] The Boys (18) 8pm

#### CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON VIRGIN (0541-555145); American History X (18]: Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U): Madeline (U): Mighty Joe (PG): Payback (18): Plunkett and Macleane (15): The Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15):

LEICESTER **ODEON FREEMENS PARK (08705-**050007); American History X (18); Arlington Road (15); Slast from the Past (12); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG): Madeline (U): Mighty Joe (PG): Patch Adams (12): Payback (18): Pleasantville (12): Plunkett and Macleane (15); The Rugrats Movie (LI): Saving Private Ryan (15); Shake speare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15); La Vita è Bella (PG): Wak-

#### THEATRE WEST END

day; times and prices for the week; running times include interval Seats at all prices 1 — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, (4): Wed, (5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

• AMADEUS David Suchet stars as ieri in Peter Shaffer's acclain drama Old Vic The Cut. SE1 (0171-494 5372/cc 494 5372| BR/O Waterloo, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £7,50-£30, 180 mins.

O ANIMAL CHACKERS Stage version of the Marx Brothers' classic. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm. £9.50-£30.

ART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, and Gary Oisen in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ◆ Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm. (4) 3pm. [7](1] 5pm. £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Family musical based on Disney's cartoon. Dominion Tottenham Court Road. W1 (0171-656 1888) ◆ Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4](7) 2.30pm. £18.50-£35. 150 mins. • BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus-

melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1733) & Le-k Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins. BUODY Musical biog-show trac-

■ BUCDY MUSICAL DIOG-Show trac-ing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 88001 ⊕ Covent Garden. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats (1) 4pm. £10-£30, half price Fri mats. 160 mins. De CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) → Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7. 45pm.

[3][7] 3pm. £10.50-£35. 165 mins. CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Nicola Davies star in this hit Broad-NICOB Davies star in this fit Broad-way musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. (4) (7) 3pm. £16-£36 (incl booking fee), 130 mins.

• THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's theatrical history lesson. Criterion Piccadilly Circis. WI (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Tue 8pm. £10-£25. 120 mins.

COPENHAGEN Drama from ael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street. WQ (0171-494 5075) © Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5[(7] 2.30pm. £10-£30. 145 mins. • DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN

Mark Little stars in this comedy about the seres. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm. £5-£25, concs available. DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals, London Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street.

W6 (0171-416 6022) Hammer-

smith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 28 Aug. £12.50-£32.50. 150 mins. I THE GEN GAME Frith Banbury directs Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin in this drama which centres around a lengthy game of Gin Rummy, Savoy Scrand, WCZ (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) 8R/O Charing X/Em-bankment. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 5 Jun. £9.50-£27.50.

O GOOD Charles Dance in CP Taylor's humorous drama. Donmar Warehouse Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) ⊕ Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 22 May, £14-£22, concs available.

 GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film, starring Darren Day. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4](7] 3pm. £10-£32.50. 150 mlns.

O GROSS INDECENCY: THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE Michael Pennington and William Hoyland in Moses Kaufman's reconstruction of the downfall of the cele brated playwright. Glelgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4([7] 2.30pm, £7.50-£29.50.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Frt 7.45pm. Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm. £12-£29.50, 110 mins.

MACBETH Rufus Sewell and Sally Dexter portray thwarted ambition. Oueen's Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5040/ cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm. ends 5 Jun. £10.50-£28.50. 140 mins.

• MAMMA MIA! New musical abut a mother's reflections on her daugh-ter's impending wedding day ac-companied by Abba's back catalogue, Prince Edward Old Comp-ton Street, WI (0171-447 5400) 9 Leic Sq/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7 20m (51/71 20m 515 525

7.30pm, (5)(7) 3pm. £15-£35. THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Stella Goaet Alison Steadman and Stella Gonet star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's fineral. Vaudeville 5trand. WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/& Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5[(7] 3pm. £8-£27.50. 120 mins.

D LES MISÉRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece, Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm. £7-£35, 195 mins.

PRIVATE LIVES, Noel Coward's wry comedy

features two honeymooning couples thrown

together in the same hotel. Starring Juliet

National Theatre. Lyttleton, London SE1

Stevenson (below) and Anton Lesser.

(0171-452 3000) from 7 May

**Now Booking** 

## MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Modom Butter fly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WCZ (0171-646, 5050) 494 5060) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4](7] 3pm. £8.50-£35, 165 mins.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha iristie's evergreen whodunnit. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) & Lelc Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm. [7] Spm. £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in Rodgers and Hammerstein musical Lyceum Wellington Street WCZ (0870-606 3446) & Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 Jun. £10-£35. 180 mins.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/tc 344 4444) → Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £10-£35. 150 mins.

) THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE Richard Dreyfoss and Mar-sha Mason star in Neil Simon's comedy about a mid-life crisis. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm. £10-£32.50.

• RENT Musical inspired by La Bo-Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm. £12.50-£32.50. 160 mms. ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

COTTESLOE The Rot Nick Darke's drama from Kneehigh Theatre. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 28 Apr. • COTTESLOE: NT2000: The Mousetrap Agatha Christle's enduring whodinnit. Tonight 6pm.

**OLYTTELTON:** The Forest Ostrovsky's black social satire stars Frances de la Tour. In rep, today 2.15pm & 7.30pm, ends 1 May, Cottesloe: £12-£18. Lyt-telton: £8-£27. NT2000: £4, concs £3, Day seats from 10am. South Bank, S£1 (0171-452 3000) BR/O Waterloo.

DOWN CHANCEDEADE COMPANY O THE BARBICAN; The Lion, The Which and The Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs the CS Lewis Namia classics for children. In rep, today 1.45pm & 7.15pm, ends 8 May Barbican The-atre; £5-£26. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) BR/ Barbican.

SACRED HEART New writing from Mick Mahoney in which two friends struggle to come to terms with their pasts. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) © Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, ends 24 Apr. £10, concs £5.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIL 1970s musical featuring songs by the Bee Gees, London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) 2,30pm, £10-£32,50. 135 mins • SHOCKHEADED PETER Junk

opera, featuring the Tiger Lillies, Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, [7] 2,30pm, ends 10 Apr. £5-£18. O SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW Slava Polomine returns to London, Pic-

cadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50. • STARLIGHT EXPRESS Hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070)

8R/O Victoria, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3[[7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins. TRUST Gary Mitchell's explosive new drama. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Tonight 9pm, ends 3 Apr. £10, concs £5.

I THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama examining ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Ouke Of York's) St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Lelc Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)[7] 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mins

I WEST SIDE STORY New production of Berostein's classic musical Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987) & Leic So. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5)(7[ 3pm. £18.50-£35. 160 mlns.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new hit musical. Aidwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000) & Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5([7( 3pm. £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

● THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 [0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444] ⊕ Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110

#### THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ARTS THEATRE Howard Crabtree's When Pigs Fly Gay musical comedy. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 6pm & 8.30pm, Sun 6pm, ends 3 Apr. £20-£25 concs £15. Great Newport Street. WC2 (0171-836 3334/ cc 741 9999) & Leicester Square.

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON Gob Jason Orange stars in this blistering but comic attack on art and culture. Tue-Sun 8pm, mais Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 18 Apr. £12-£14, concs £9. Joan of Arc Monica Lissak's fresh look at this renowned saint. Tue-Sun 1pm, ends 11 Apr. £5, concs £4. Upper 5creet, N1 (0171-226 1916)

LYRIC STUDIO 400 lokes with the Devil Tragi-comedy about one man's failed attempt to make an epic film about Mexico, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm. ends 17 Apr. £9. concs £5, Mon - all seats £5. King 5treet, W6 (0181-741 2311) → Hammers

BOX OFFICE

Coming Attraction

EX-PIXIES frontman, Frank Black (below),

reappears this summer with The Catholics.

The original members may be gone, but the

lo-fi style and strange lyrics remain. Both are

much in evidence on his new album, Pistolero.

LA2, London W1 (0171-434 0404) 24 May

#### \*THE INFORMATION ON **Gods and Monsters**

nominated for their performances

gardener, who falls in with Whale's

subliminal agenda, unaware of his

employer's linking of him with the

infamous misunderstood monster.

What They Say About It

Mortality\_ it's also about the fragile yet

his acting muscle like never before"

enduring consolations of art" Anthony

Quinn, Independent. "McKellen flexes

Anne Billson, Sunday Telegraph.

"An unusually rich and

ambitious film" Sebastian

Faniks, Mail on Sunday.

images" Tom Shone;

Sunday Times. "It's a gay,

"Its synapses fizz and pop

"It isn't just about memory and

Brendan Fraser is the beautifully robust

What is it?

Embellished biopic of the life of James Whale, the British film director who illuminated Hollywood in the 1930s with such ground-breaking horror epics as Frankenstein and Bride of Frankenstein. Shunned for his homosexual tastes and afraid of succumbing to sendity, this ... bastion of British heritage determines to provoke his own earthly monster - his gardener Clayton Boone - into taking him to an early grave.

Ian McKellen shines in the central role, supported by Lynn Redgrave as 'Meester Jimmy's' Hungarian housekeeper, devoted to him but not his unscrupulous antics. Both were Oscar-

Who's in it?

TRICYCLE THEATRE Up Against The Wall New black musical com-plete with huge afrox Mon-Fri Spm. Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 4.15pm, to-day 2pm, ends 17 Apr. £8.£13.50. Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn.

#### THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BARNSTAPLE OUEEN'S THEATRE Bing-Bong Comedy about television sitrom scriptwriters, starring Dennis Wa-terman and Patrick Mower Mon. Tue, Thur-Sat. 7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Apr. £11-£14.50. Boutport Street (01271-324242)

THEATRE ROYAL The Dispute Marivaux's quasi-sclenific drama. Tue-Sat 8pm. mat Thur 4pm. ends 3 Apr. £7.50-£14.50, concs available. Bond Street (01273-328488)

BRISTOL ALMA TAVERN Marriage Gogol's comedy about a succe man who has everything except a soulmate. Tue-Fri 9pm, Sat 7pm 6

THEATRE ROYAL The Price Com-

pelling drama about two estranged brothers. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr. £3-£19, concs avail-able, Xing 5treet (0117-987 7877) CARDIFF

NEW THEATRE Smokey Joe's Cafe Rock'n'roll musical revue. Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri 5.45pm & 8.45pm. Sat 3pm & 7.30pm, ends 3 Apr. £9-£21, concs available. Park Place

EXETER PHOENIX Barbers of Surreal Forkbeard Fantasy's surre-al and inventive theatre performance. 30 & 31 Mar. 8pm. £8. concs £6. Bradninch Place, Gandy Street (01392-667080)

QUEEN'S THEATRE Misery Stage adaptation of Stephen King's horror story about a writer held captive by Mon-Sat 8pm, en £8.50-£12.50, concs £5,50-£7.50. Billet Lane (01708-443333) WOLSEY THEATRE The Glass Menagerie Tennessee Williams' por

trait of a faded Southern belie who can't let go of her past. Tue-Fri 7.45pm. Sat 8pm, mars Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Apr. £5-£14, concs available. Civic Drive (01473-253725) KEY THEATRE Loot Michael Elph-

ick and Letitia Dean star in Joe Orton's wickedly funny black comedy. Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri & Sat 8pm. mats Thur 2.30pm, Sat 5pm, ends 3 Apr. E9-E11.50, concs available. Embanisment Road (01733-552439)

HUS HABYE MOUNTAIN Jonaths Harvey's new play set in Heaven and oo Earth. Tue-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Apr. £7.50-£11.50. Kingland Road (01202-685222)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE A Midsummer Night's Dream Michael Boyd directs Josette Simon and Nicholas Jones in the summer classic. 30, 31 Mar. 1, 2 Apr. 7.30pm, ends 9 Oct. £5-£39. Waterside (01789-295623)

SWAN THEATRE Volpone Mal colm Storry plays the avaricious hero in Jonson's exuberant satire. 30 & 31 Mar, 7.30pm, ends 9 Oct. £5-£36. Waterside (01789-295623)

PALACE THEATRE The Late Middle Classes Harold Pinter directs Samon Gray's study of family conflict Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 10 Apr. £4-£15.75, concs available. Clarendon Road (01923-225671)

THEATRE ROYAL Shirley Valentine Willy Bussell's comedy about a flery holiday romance. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Thur 2.30pm, Sat 4.45pm, ends 3 Apr. E6-E2S, concs available.

#### EXHIBITIONS

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SO-CIETY For Most of It I Have No Words: Simon Norfolk Photographs from sites of 20th-century genocide. Mon-Sun 9.30am-5.30pm, ends 6.hm. £2.50, concs £1.75. The Octagon Gal-leries, Milsom Street (01225-462841)

THEATR BRYCHEINIOG The Poems of Jules Laforgue: Patrick Caulfield Prints by the Pop artist, based on the work of the French poet. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 18 Apr, free. Canal Wharf (01874-611622)

BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Accelerator Work by contemporary artists, including Hilary Lloyd, Also Sasso and Suzy Spence. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 5 Apr, free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191)

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso and Matisse Prints, drawings and ceramics from the museum's collection. Ends 11 Apr, free.
Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Etchings of the East Coast, lithographs, woodcuts and screenprints. Ends 2 May, free.

Remberated and the Baseion The Rembrandt and the Passion museum's outstanding collectico of prints. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 20 Jun, free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

COOKHAM-ON-THAMES STANLEY SPENCER GALLERY Win ter Exhibition Featuring The Last Supper and The Beatifudes of Love: Contemplation which have been Contemplation which have been touring America, Mon-Sun 10,30am-5.30pm, ends 5 Apr. 50p, concs 25p, child 10p. King's Hall, High Street (01628-520890)

ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MU-SEUM The Art of Hilda Carline: Mrs Stanley Spencer Exhibition dedicated to the paintings of Spencer's first wife. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 3 May, free. Queen Street (01392-265858)

LONDON HAYWARD GALLERY Patrick Cauffield More than 50 colourful artist, Mon. Thur-Sun 10am-6pm Tue & Wed 10am-8pm, ends 11 Apr. £6, concs £4, family £12. Belvedere SE1 (0171-960 4242)

NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by ingres Paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon, Tue, Thur-5un 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed £4 7pm-10pm. Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of

Charles 1 Rare exhibition exploring the work of the 17th-century Italian artist. Mon. Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm. Wed 10am-9pm, ends 23 May, free. Wed 10am-spm, ends 23 May, ree. Rogier Van Der Weyden in the National Gallery Paintings by the 15th-century Dutch artist. Mon, Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-6pm, ends 4 Jul, free. Trafalgar Square WC2 (0171-747 2885) & Charing Cross.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS MOIIet in the 20th Century Paintings made in the 26 years after 1900. Mon-Thur, Sun 9am-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House Piccadil (0171-300 8000) & Green Park.

TATE GALLERY Art Now 17: Thomas Demand's Tunnel Looped film of travel in a tunnel explores urban life. Ends 25 Apr, free. Works on Paper and Paintings: Francis Bacon Previouslyunknown works. Ends 2 May, free. Words. Finds 2 May, free.
Pharmacy: Damien Hirst Installation exploring modern medicine.
Ends 2 May, free.
Scrapheap Services: Michael Landy
Installation of mannequins. Ends

2 May, free.
Jackson Pollock Major painting retrospective of the Abstract Expresslonist's works. Ends 6 Jun. £7.50, concs 55. family £19 (Firstcall 0870-842 2233 + £1,60 bkg fee). Turner's Last Papers 1820-51 Examining the paper Turner used for his later work Ends 13 Jun, free, When Bobber 5019 My and the state of the state o

27 Jun. free. Dangerous Liasons: Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson Exam-ining the cross fertilisation of the couple. Ends 11 Jul, free. Dangerous Liasors: Rodin and Gwen John Exploring the relationship bew-teen the artist lovers. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 11 Jul, free. Millbank SW1 (0171-887 8000) ◆ Pimilico.

NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50

- Working People: Sebastiao Sal-gado The acclaimed photographer portrays Indian life. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm, ends 8 Apr, free. Reeves Yard, St Benedict's Street (01603-660352)

TATE GALLERY Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marbie sculpture linking St Ives with Montse Indies, the artist's birthplace. Ends 11 Apr Images of Portmeor Beach: Lubaina Himid Work in progress by the resident artist. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 18 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Portume-

or Beach (01735-796226)

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#### CLASSICAL

COLSTON HALL Phitharmonia/Zin-man Beethoven's 4th Piano Concerto and Tchailtovsky's 4th Symphony. Tonight 7.30pm. £9.60-£21.60. Colston Street (0117-922 3686)

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL London Forest Choir/Stewart Bruckner's Mass in E minor. Tonight 7.45pm. E8-£19. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo.

WIGMORE HALL Tasmin Little Sonatas by Bach and Bax. Tonight 7.30pm. £8-£16. Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) & Bond Street. **OPERA** 

LONDON
SADLER'S WELLS Peter Grimes
Britter's classic in a Welsh National
Opera staging, 30 Mar & 3 Apr,
7.30pm, £7.50-£60. Rosebery Avenue,
EC1 (0171-863 8000) \$\to\$ Angel.

**DANCE** CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE English National Ballet: Tour de Force Extracts from five distinctive ballets, 30 & 31 Mar, 7.45pm. £6.\$0-£18.50. Regent Street (01242-\$72573)

**HIGH WYCOMBE** WYCOMBE SWAN Small Bones bance Company to.. The Edge & Stand by Stand By A double-bill of new work. Tonight 8pm. £5-£8. St. Mary's Street (01494-512000)

PLACE THEATRE Red Rain Dance: Triple Bill The programme comprises Hedo-scetic, Rere Comes Renard and Where Raging Fires Meet. Tonight 8pm. £10, concs £7. Duke's Road, WC1 (0171-387 0031) ← Euston.

RICHMOND THEATRE Ricochet Dance Company: Fetch Boy and Fox/Sive Dynamic works by Stephen Petronio and Nigel Charnock. Tonight 7.45pm. E11. The Green, Richmond (0181-940 0088) ↔ Richmond.

#### LITERATURE

ENFIELD NICK HORNBY The author of Fever Pitch reads from and talks about his new book. Ottakar's Bookstore Tonight 7pm, free by ticket. Church eet (0181-363 6060)

ARMADA: BRIAN PATTEN The poet shares memories of childhood and moving tributes to his mother. Old Rown Hall Arts Centre Tonight 8pm. £6, concs £4. High Street (01442-228091)

#### COMEDY

THE FET COMEDY CLUB AT CADE. LACS Stand up with Tim Vine, Robin Banks and James Dowdeswell. Tonight 8pm. £6, concs £5. Walcot Street (01225-464241)

BRISTOL VIRGINMIRTH COMEDY CLUB AT LE CHATEAU WINE BAR Featuring Mr A McElwee, Rob Canwood, James Dowdswell, Mark Tribedi and Christian Carter Tonight 8.30pm.
Park Street (0117-926 8654)

PUNCHLINE COMEDY CLUB AT

ARTS CENTRE With Noel James Stephen K Amos and Jo Caulfield Devizes Road (01793-614837) LONDON HARRY HILL AT HEN AND CHICK-ENS The surreal superstar pre-sents workin progress in preparation for his forthcoming national tour.

Mon-Sun 8.30pm, ends 1 Apr. E5. St Paul's Road, N1 (0171-704

#### **CLUBS**

BRIGHTON LEGENDS OF THE DARK BLACK AT ZAP CLUB Top jungle and drum'n'bass night. Tonight 10pm-3am, £9, mems £8, NUS £7. Kings Road Arches (01273-202407)

TUESDAYS AT CAPE BLUE Live Latin music plus DJ support. Tonight 9pm-1am, free. The Old Fire Station, er Street (0117-940 5626)

RAP'N'READY AT HANOVER GRAND Hip hop and R&B with Giles Peterson. Tonight 10.30pm-3.30am, £12. Hanover Street, W1 (0171-499 7977) & Oxford Circus

EASTBOURNE EASTBOURNE
GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE Adaptation of Roald Dahl's
wickedly furny tale, for ages four plus.
Devonshire Park Theatre Tue-Sat 2.30pm & 7pm, mat Fri 2.30pm. ends 3 Apr. £9, child £6. family £24.

NORMICH
ANIMAL MAGIC: WORKSHOP
Mask-making and performance
workshop for ages 5-8. Norwich Arts
Centre 30 & 31 Mar, 10.30am-3.30pm, £30. Reeves Yard, St Bene-dict's 5treet (01603-660352)

MUSIC

BEDFORD DRUGSTORE, THE PARADISE MO-TEL LAPLAND Strong bill including
Isohel Mootero's indie comho.
Esquires Bromham Road (01234340120) Tonight 8.30pm, £5.

ERROL BROWN The ex-Hot Chocolate vocalist's Still Sery tour, Pavil-ion Theatre Westover Road Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

8pm, phone for prices.

BIS Pop times from the new album. Oxford Street (0116-255 3956)

UK AFRICA Showcase for cross-cul-tural bands. Cafe de Paris Coventry Street W1 (0171-734 7700)

regular rap night. Hanover Grand Hanover Street W1 (0171-499 7977) Oxford Circus. Tonight 8pm. £12.

£12.50-£17.50. MEAT LOAF The Loaf, performs tracks from the Greatest Hits album. Wembley Arena Empire Way, Wembley, HA9 (0181-902 0902) embley Park. Tonight 8pm

ULTRASOUNO Andrew Woods' ambitious prog-pop project. Union Bar Pudding Lane (01622-753041) Tonight 8.30pm, phone for prices. NOTTINGHAM

drummer of Queen tours his recent solo album, Electric Fire. Wulfrum Haff North Street (01902-552121).

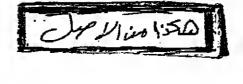
**MUSIC** JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

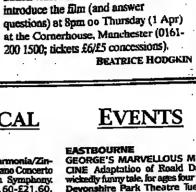
GARY HUSBAND TRIO Piano trio from the re-invented Level 42 drum-

MILTON KEYNES COURTNEY PINE The hip DJ-driven contemporary sax star. The Stables

STEVE SWALLOW QUINTET The pioneering 1960s bass guitarist. Rounte Scott's Frith Street WI (0171-439 0747/cc 439 0747) ↔ Leicester

summate pianist who has worked with Van Morrisson. Vortex Stoke Newington Church Street, N16 (0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke ngton. Tonight 8pm. £4, concs £3.





guilt-free Sonset Boulevard" Philip

Where You Can See It

Now showing at selected cinemas.

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French, Observer.

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SOUL SIDE UP Classic soul covers featuring three vocalists. Ronnle Scott's Broad Street (0121-643 4525) Tonight 8pm, £8,50, concs £5. BOURNEMOUTH

BIRMINGHAM

(01202-456456) Bournemouth THE YO YOS Sleazy shambolic rock'n'roll from a combo the critics are tipping for greatness. JB's Castle Hill (01384-253597) Tonight

TEN BENSON Thumping white-trash to-fi from Chris Tekkam and his fest rising cult quartet. The Square Fourth Avenue (01279-305000) Tonight 8pm, £3.

Piccadilly Circus, Tonight 10pm. JAZZY JEFF. SLUM PRINCE Rep stars old and new take the stage for the opening of the Hanover Grand's new

NICK CAVE, DIRTY THREE, IRLA O'LEONAIRD The antipodean prince of swamp-gothic is joined by like-minded types. Royal Festival Hall South Bank 5E1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterlon. Tonight 7.30pm. 512.50-517.50.

£23.50-£27.50. MAIDSTONE

JACK JONES The golden-voiced Stries balladeer Royal Centre The-atre Square (0115-989 5555) Tonight 8pm. phone for prices. WOLVERHAMPTON ROGER TAYLOR The flaxen-haired

CAMBRIDGE

mer Boat Race East Road (01223-508533) Tonight 8.30pm. £8. Stockwell Lane, Wavendon (01908-583928). Tonight 8.15pm. £10-£23.

ANNIE ROSS The vocalist and actress in sultry cabaret mode. Phzza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) & Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm. £20. £18 in adv.

Square. Tonight 9pm & 11.30pm. £15, mems £4. ROBIN ASPLAND TRIO The con-

5.50

Undoon a ge 12.00 West Tas 1205 1215 Har we 12.20 Augus

RADIO 1

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RADIO 3

4.00 Voices.

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(902-924MHz FM ) 6.00 On Ak

9.00 Masterworks.

10.30 Artist of the Week.

1)12.00 Composer of the Week:

2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

4.45 Music Machine.

for string quartet.

ings (2/5). (R)

SKY MOVIEMAX

Trouble (1995) (22783).

Last Best Year (1990) (96547). **7.00** Wing and a Prayer (1998) (49455). **9.00** Carriers

(1997) (64837). 11.00 Burled Alive 2 (1997)

(689634), **12.35** Broken Silence (1997) (2253219), **2.05** Dead Presidents (1996)

(393236). 4.05 Terror of Mechagodzilla

SKY CINEMA 4.00 Five Card Stud (1968) (7596011).

(1975) (8715344), 5.30 - 7.00 Looking for

6.00 Kid Galahed (1962) (2999160), 8.00 Hellfighters (1969) (2901905), 10.00 Blume

in Love (1973) (2157455). 11.55 The French

Correction (1971) (3986943). 1.40 The Seven-Ups (1973) (4539615). 3.25 The

6.00 A Simple Twist of Fete (1994)

(27298479), 7.45 Great Moments in Sci-

Malcolm X (1992) (6840030), 1.20 Thust (1990) (6858621), 3.00 - 8.00 Passion

4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures

(1582127). 4.30 A River Somewhere

(1571011). 5.00 Searching for Lost Worlds (4588522). 6.00 Wildlife SOS (1569276).

8.30 Born Wild (3485963), 7.30 Future-world (572740), 8.00 Great Escapes (338269), 8.30 The Death Zone (8188586), 8.00 Trailblazers (8295059).

10.00 Betty's Voyage (8265818), 11.00

Hitler (\$152769), 12.00 Betty's Voyage (9876899), 1.00 Searching for Lost Worlds

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

ence: Fating Cats (\$209450). 8.00 The Quick and the Dead (1995) (\$762408). 9.45 Fight of the Swan (\$675568). 10.00

Two-Headed Spy (1958) (88179615). 4.55

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtima Con-

5.00 in Tune. See Pick of the Day.

7.30 Performance on 3. Chris de

Souza introduces the last of four

Quartet at St Georges, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Prokofiev: String Quartet No

2 Op 92 Stravinsky: Three Pieces

concerts given by the Borodin

8.05 Ernst Gombrich at 90.

String Quartet No 2 in D.

Richard Goode (piano).

8.25 Concert, part 2. Borodin:

9.10 Postscript. Twenty-five years

critics reassess his poetry and

after W H Auden's death, poets and

make a personal selection of read-

9.30 Chopin. Scherzo in E, Op 54.

9.50 Seven Last Words from the

Cross. James MacMillants intensely

powerful evocation of the great dra-

ma of the Passion in a concert per-

formance given at the Queen

Elizabeth Hall, London, as part of

the 1997 Raising Sparks' festival.

**11.00** Sound Stories.

(88-90.2MHz FM )

(975-998MHz, FM )

6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Kevin Green-

ing. 12.00 Jo Whitey. 2.00 Mark

8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening

Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce.

Dession. 10.00 Digital Update. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 The

4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mils.

Breezeblock 2.00 Clive Warren.

6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake

12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stewart, 5.05 Johnnie Walker, 7.00

Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits.

8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 Goldfish

and Candyfloss. 10.00 Whicker's

10.30 Richard Alinson. 12.00 Kat-

New World. See Pick of the Day.

rina Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex

Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.

Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45

A STATE OF THE STA

Develon for succession

## TUESDAY RADIO

#### PICK OF THE DAY

SOUTH AFRICAN drag artiste novel, An Equal Music, which relationship with his sister the between two young musicians. concert pianist Tessa Uys in The Musical Side of the Family (L30pm R4) and explains how his musical parents helped form his satirical Apartheid-ribbing persona, Evita Bezuidenhourt

In Tune (5pm R3) finds Sean

about the latter's anticipated

BBC Singers, London Chamber Or-

chestra/James MacMan. 10.45 Night Waves. Richard Coles

talks to Salman Rushdie about fic-

of his new novel 'The Ground Be-neath Her Feet', Set in India, Eng-

land and America, it tells the story

through the years of Vietnam, politi-cal protest and the rise of corporate

power. Sculptor Peter Randall-Page discusses his belief in the way cer-

tain forms and patterns link music.

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Unreliable Evidence.

10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

1.30 Musical Side of the Family.

3.00 NEWS; The Exchange: 0870

of a legendary popular singer

art and science.

Schubert (R)

11.30 Jazz Notes.

RADIO 4 (924-946MHz FM )

6.30 Song Lines (R)

TLOO NEWS; Nature

100 The World at One.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Making

3.30 Rigby's Red Herrings.

In the first of a series of pro-

grammes about preserved fish,

food enthusiast Graeme Rigby In-

vestigates the case of the disap-

always reliable Ian Holm takes

7.00 Count Duckula (29301), 7.50 Grimmy

(15108), 8.00 Earthworm Jm (16817), 8.30 Godzilla (66158), 2.00 Pokamon (83450).

9.30 The Simpsons (27382), 10.00 Shadow

Raiders (81653), 10.30 Xena (63450), 11.30 Legend of the Hidden City (35837), 12.00 Tarzan (17905), 1.00 Mad about You (28672).

1.30 Jeopardy (37769), 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (82382), 3.00 Jenny Jones (39653).

4.00 Polemon (3160). 4.30 Shadow

Raiders (2672), 5.00 Star Treic Vovacer

(8905), 6.00 Americals Dumbest Criminals

8027), 6.30 Dream Team (1189), 7.00 The

8.00 Rescue Medics (6382), 8.30 Coppers (2189), 9.00 World's Widest Police Videos

588121, 10.00 Bloody Foreigneral (59805).

11.00 Dream Team (26189), 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (74834), 12.30 Law and Order (67412), 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (8855685).

7.00 Sports Centre (4255301). 735 V-Max

(594585), 7.45 Totalsport (593855), 8.15 You're on Sky Sports (538865), 9.00 Rac-ing (52189), 9.30 Aerobics (69721), 10.00 Wresting (69285), 12.00 Aerobics (55653), 12.30 V-Max (90837), 1.00 Football

(88092), 2.00 Bowls (13127), 4.00 WWF

5059), 6.00 Sports Centre (9127), 6.30

Scottish Football (47653), 7.30 Fastrax (9363), 9.00 Greyhound Racing (84568).

10.00 Sports Centre (798169), 10.35 You're on Sky Sports (936496), 11.00 Scot-tish Football (47721), 12.00 Sports Centre

SKY SPORTS 1

Simpsons (7634), 7.30 The Simpsons (3301).

See Pick of the Day.

9.45 Serial: Plata

11.30 Chambers.

12.57 Weather.

010 0444

tion, love and rock 'n' roll, in the light

Pieter-Dirk Uys discusses his chronicles the relationship The radio may spare us

Alan Whicker's (right) look of complacent solicitude, but in Whicker's New World (10pm R2) he tracks down former interviewees who emigrated to America and discovers what Rafferty talking to Vikram Seth, became of them.

DOMINIC CAVENDISH



follow up listeners' complaints.

8.40 in Touch. Peter White with

news for visually impaired people.

9.00 NEWS; Case Notes Special.

Can music, painting, or even land-

scape gardening have a positive effect on your health? Graham

Easton looks at the interaction be-

9.30 Unreliable Evidence. Clive An-

derson cuts through the Jargon to

get to the heart of an Issue which

10.00 The World Tonight, With

10.45 Book at Bedtime: My

Mother's House Janet Suzman

reads Colette's memoir (2/5). Co-

lette remembers what her father

1LO2 NEWS; Mad Man Blue, By

Tracy Aston. The unassuming but

irrepressible Bloomer gets involved

in a feud with his neighbour. Will he

come out of his suburban night-

Hudd Director Joselyn Boxall (R)

11.30 Talking Pictures. Brian Sibley

mare unscathed? Starring Roy

taught her of politics, and her moth-

affects anyone who uses the legal

tween art and health.

Justin Webb.

er of animals. (R)

**TLOO** News

pearing Bombay duck, with help from chef Alastair Little. (R) 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. Anna Massey negrates the history of Britain, with the words of Sir Winston Churchill read by Paul Eddington and Peter Jeffrey. Additional readings by Ross Livingstone. 62: The Civil War Begins. 4.00 NEWS; A Good Read Sarah

LeFanu and guests, popular chi-dran's writer and illustrator Shirley Hughes and award-winning poet Ken Smith, discuss their favourite paperbacks.

4.30 Shop Talk. Entertaining conversation from the world of business with Heather Payton and 5.00 PM

5.57 Weether 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 fm Glad You Asked Me That. A six-part humorous guide to modem living and an antidote to premilennial tension. With Michael Bywater, Sean Meo, Philip Pope, the Nmmo Twins and a special guest. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7:15 Front Row. Mark Lawson

chairs the nightly arts programme. 7.45 High Days, Holy Days. A selection of readings for Easter. 2: Getting away for the Easter holidays, the family arriving, Easter bunnies and the weather, as related by Barbara Castle, Dickens, Tony Benn and Lewis Carroll Read by Charlotte Comwell, Denys Hawthome, Kathryn Hunt, Leo

presents the latest firm news. 12.00 News 12.30 The Late Book; Age of 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. McKern and Leslie Philips. 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 8.00 NEWS; Face the Facts. John Walte and his team of investigators 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

(693, 909kHz MW ) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Brian Hayes. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ian Payne. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra.

9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00

12.04 News; Shipping Forecast.

1130 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast.

**RADIO 4 LW** 

RADIO 5 LIVE

(198kHz)

7.30 The Tuesday Match. Coverage of the nights top football action. 10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. In-cluding 1030 a full sports round-up. 11.00 News and finance. And between 1130 and 100 a sharp and spirited late-night topical discussion. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM (1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Balley. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests, 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Aları Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 -

6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz

6.30 Russ Williams. 9.30 Mark Forrast. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 6.45 London Calling with Harriet Scott/AM Pate and Geoff. 7.30 Pete and Geoff. 10.00 Gary Davies. 1.00 Richard Allen. 4.30 - 6.30 Phil Kennedy.

**WORLD SERVICE RADIO** (198ki-tz 1.W ) 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Discovery. 1.55 My Century. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 On Screen. 3.00 The World Today. 3.30 World Business Report, 3.45 Insight. 4.00 The World Today. 4.20

Sports Roundup, 4.30 - 7.00 The World Today (4.30-700).

TALK RADIO 6.00 David Banks and Paul Ross. 12.00 Crimefichters 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 4.00 The SportZone. 7.00 The World of Formula One. **B.00** Cheeting Hearts with Jayne living 10.00 James Whale, 1.00 -6.00 lan Collins.

beloos (1897837), 8.30 Tiny Tales (3672818), 8.35 Tiny (4502858), 8.50 Practical Parent-

(87)5924). 9.30 Roseenne Show (7693108).

10:00 Jerry Springer (9924672). 10.50

(23790672), 12:10 Through the Keyhole

130 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction

Maury Povich (3323450). 11.40 Brookside

(21032769), 12.40 Rescue Btl (12054522).

38328108), 1.40 Maury Povich (4520843)

Springer (6895295), 3.50 Michael Cole

2.30 Special Babies (9783837). 3.00 Jerry

ing (2039585), 9.00 Special Bebies

#### INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

#### CHESS JON SPEELMAN

AS EXPECTED. Vladimir Kramnik completed a fine victory at the Eighth Amber blindfold and rapidplay tournament on Sunday, though deceleration in the second half of this most demanding of tournaments reduced his lead, which at one stage was a full point and a half, to the bare minimum.

In the blindfold, last-round victories by Topalov and Shirov enabled both to catch Kramnik up, with the three finishing joint first equal on 8/11, well clear of Lautier 6.5, Nikolic and Karpov 5.5, Ivanchuk 5, Gelfand 4.5. Piket and Anand 4 and Ljubojevic and Van Wely 3.5.

Meanwhile Anand belied his lousy blindfold play with a powerful 7.5/11 in the rapidplay ahead of Kramnik 6.5, Ljubojevic, Topalov and Shirov 6, Karpov and Van Wely 5.5, Piket and Lautier 5, Gelfand and Ivanchuk 4.5 and Nikolic 4. So the final combined scores

were: Kramnik 14.5, Topalov and Shirov 14. Anand and Lautier 11.5. Karpov 11, Nikolic, Ljubojevic and Ivanchuk 9.5 and Piket, Gelfand and Van Wely 9.

After this barrage of figures, a 14 Nh3 Qa5 stampede of blinkered horses which must surely have given both

players serious headaches! In an Averbakh King's Indian, White gained space on the kingside and Black on the queenside. 16 Nf2! was essential to prevent ...b4 followed by a thematic knight sacrifice on e4, smashing White's care-

fully constructed position.

After the exchange of queens, White looked to have a clear edge but Ljubojevic's excellent 20 ...gxh5! left White with a weak h5 pawn to defend and after 32 ... Bg5! it was fairly unclear.

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36 ... 5? was a bad blunder though - 36 ... Nd7 looks correct - and after 38 Nc7! the white cavalry carried the day. At the end if 48 ... Nce5 49 Ng6+ Nxg6 50 hxg6 Nf6 51 Rh7!+ Nxh7 52 g7 is mate

White: Vladimir Kramnik Black: Ljubomir Ljubojevic Amber Blindfold 1999 (Round 2)

King's Indian Averbakh variation 25 Bh3 Kh7 1 d4 Nf6 26 Rxh3 Nb7 2 c4 g6 27 Rxh3 Nb7 28 Rxc8 Rxc8

3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 29 Nc3 Nd7 5 Be2 0-0 6 Bg5 Nbd7 30 Nd3 Bf6 7 Qd2 e5 31 Nb4 Ndc5 8 d5 Nc5 32 Nb5 Bg5! 33 Bxg5 hxg5 9 t3 a5 10 g4 Bd7 34 Ke3 Kh6 11 h4 c6 35 Nc6 Re8 12 h5 exd5 36 Rh1 f5? 37 ext5 e4

13 cxd5 a4 38 Nc7! Rc8 15 Rb1 b5 39 Ne6 ext3 16 N2! b4 40 f6 g4 41 Ne7 Ra8 17 Ned1 b3 42 f7 Nd7 18 a3 Oxd2+ 19 Kxd2 h6 43 Nf5+ Kh7 20 Be3 gxh5 44 Rg1 Na5 21 gxh5 Rfc8 45 Rxg4 Rc8 22 Nc3 Rab8 46 Rg7+ Kh8 23 Rbc1 Ne8 47 Ne7 Nc4+

48 K£2 1-0

#### **CREATIVITY**

24 Bf1 Nf6

A BUMPER crop of creative uses for O'Byrne). Throw at unmodified genetically Monsantified tomatoes. Cook with Lucrezia Borgia - boeuf à la BSE, lait au E coli, et tomates Monchanté (Sue Johnson), Selfcooling gazpacho (Alan Brooker).

Prizes for a three-legged race (Joan Vinnicombe), Feed Wyatt & Morgan at the OK Corral, make Two-Martyrs Earp (BB); Agent Tomato, born-again military defoliant (Derek Holmes).

Lone Ranger and Tomto (Peter Thomas): Redskins starring opposite John Wayne. If skinless, serve at bar mitzvahs (Tony Brandon). Skins for tom-toms (Harold Smith). Bulbs for red-light districts (Tony McCoy O'Grady). Book marks for pulp fiction (JV). Red noses for elephants (Peter Houghton). Bomb Salad Hussein (James A Kelly). and London buses (Octavia Leigh). Make tomato fetchup (JR Gore). Sentence to life in the can (JAK).

Use Alsatian genes to get Rin-Tin-Tinned tomatoes; mountain goat genes to get a tomatahorn: bullfighter genes to get a tomatador; palaeontologist genes to get a Tomatosaurus rex (PT). Cross with a kipper to breed red herrings (Colin Archer). Splice in cannabis DNA for "salad daze" (Max Beran). Polymerise with a GM lemon and a GM lime to make insect-repellent traffic lights (SJ). Cross with GM soya to make Huckleberry Finn (JRG), Force-feed robots to get automata (Mike Gifford). Tomato Computers - a rival for Apple and Apricot? (John

geneticists in the stocks on village greens (BB), Programme to throw themselves at the stock in country kitchens (Susan Tomes). Grow contoured, to fit comically relieved noses (Eric Bridgstock). Use to transfuse victims ready for vegetarian vampires' visits (AB). Cook with cloned lamb; call it Dolly mixture (Matthew White). Edible earmuffs (Shirley Edmundson). With added nuclear strike capa-

bility enable arms manufacturers to qualify for EU farming subsidies (Martin Brown). In nuclear warheads, 2lb is a critical mass (Andrew Duncan). Employ as saucy comedians, puréetan ministers or stalkers (PH). As snooker balls with six open-mouthed Monsanto executives as pockets (BB). As tennis balls for unseeded players (JV). Serve at Wimbledon; sip a tomato deuce at 40-40 (ST).

And finally: Drew Barrow notes that the BBC has been using sixpip GMT on the hour for years. Peter Thomas, Alan Brooker, Matthew White take home a Chambers Dictionary of Quotations. Three more for suggestions for appropriate collective nouns. A gaggle of geese, but how about accountants, Creativity contributors, deep-sea divers...? e-mail Loki, Valhalla@ btinternet.com or write to Creativity, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL by 8 April. On 6 April, automated phone scripts. Readers' meetings may be set up. Please say if you would like to attend

#### SATELLITE AND CABLE

#### PICK OF THE DAY

5.00 The Lies He Told (1996) (69059), 8.00 Forever Love (1996) (64909363), 8.50 Sele-ra (1997) (5105)(656), 12.00 The Oirectors (33943), 1.00 Hollywood Buzz (19363) ANDY GARCIA does troubled the role of Garcia's father. 2.00 Lies He Told (1996) (71727). 4.00 For-ever Love (1996) (#375837). 5.50 Selena (1997) (50934295). 8.00 Air Force One (1997) (63108), 10.00 Night Falls on Manhattan (1997) (21634). See Pick of the Day 12.00 Beckshaft (1991) (92971306). 2.20 People vs Larry Flynt (1996) (46736306). (100m Sky Premier). He plays 4.30 · 8.00 The Directors (69141). a New York lawyer alarmed to discover that someone close to 7.00 Tom Between Two Lovers (1979) (10653), 9.00 Invesion of the Astro Monster home may be caught up in law enforcement corruption. Lena (1965) (93496), **11.00** The Last Best Year (1990) (53092), **1.00** Torn Between Two Lovers (1979) (97214), **3.00** Invasion of the Olin (The Unbearable Lightness of Being) plays a fellow lawyer and love interest, while the

very well. He has cause to look Lumet, who has trodden similar that way quite a bit in Sidney territory before in films such as ace of the City Night Falls on Manhattan Q&A, handles proceedings with his customary aplomb.

Reports that Eric Clapton (right) may give up performing live will have distressed his fans. They can be reminded of what they might soon be missing with Eric Clapton - 24 Hours (12midn't VH-1).

JAMES RAMPTON



(82)8035), **12,15** You're on Sky Sports (5753238), **1,00** Shooker (75967), **2,00** Sports Centre (13451580), 345 Close. SKY SPORTS 2

7.50 Aerobics (61545), 7.30 Sports Centre (175665), 7.45 Recing (800656), 8.45 Moto-plus (5776924), 8.45 Sports Centre (9787769), 9.00 Fishing North America (594301), 9.30 Fish TV (838276), 10.00 Football (3269588), 11.00 Bowls (2088479). 1.00 Max Power (1835647) 2.00 Snow Show (5506276) 2.30 Total (27/2380), 3.00 Cricket (5556856), 5.00 Second Irrings (5520656), 5.30 Cricket (5579/40, 10.00 Golf (3631011), 12.00 Footbal (8911580).

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Powerboat and Jet Sport World (1464108), 12.30 Totalsport (19060127), 1,00 Fishing North America (31051672), 1,30 Fish TV (19069496), 2,00 Motorsport (27681818), 2,30 Golf (11940943), 3,30 Festrax (14546856), 4.00 Sports Unimited 1189, 5.00 Rebel Sports (27615496). 5.30 Snocker (1929450), 2.30 Football (30128837), 9.30 Fastrax (19040383). 10.00 Tales from the Premiership The Nestly Men (14965837), 10.30 Superbouts Hagler vs Rolden (79636905), 11.30 Close.

7.30 Refly (60214) 9.00 Curing (35498). 11.00 Footbal European Championship Legends (51924), 12.00 Trial (50721), 12.30 Motor Sport (95905), 1.00 Triestilon (73160). 2.00 Football (34045), 4.00 Car on los

(4818). 4.20 Tractor Puling (95214). 5.30 Strangth (20856). 6.30 Dencing (3890740). 7.50 Figure Skating (376837). 9.00 Boxing (98547). 11.00 US PGA Golf four (48189). 12.00 Motor Sport (79561), 12.30 Close. UK GOLD

7.00 Crossroads (\$145479), 7.30 Neighbours (\$219547), 7.55 EastEnders (7139996). 8.30 The Bit (9219140). 9.30 House of Eliot 5852450), 10.30 Phoda 5885059, 11.00 Dalas (4509127), 11.55 Neighbours (75882160), 12.25 EastEnders (2534214), 1.00 Bugs (1106295), 2.00 Dallas (#32816). 2.55 The Bil (155127) 3.55 EastEnders (3044363) 4.30 Phode (1580769) 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (2788540) 6.00 Dynasty (1126069). 7.00 Ever Decreasing Circles (7363566). 7.40 Last of the Summer Wine (4731189), 8.20 The Brittes Empire (2962837), 9.00 Red Dwarf VI (1658450). 9.40 Crime Travelor (30035655), 19.45 Sugs (53450295), 11.50 The Still (5300011), 12.55 Between the Lines (5817325), 1.50 Blacksidder Goes Forth (1187832), 2.25 Man from Auntie (30/7870), 3.00 - 7.00 Shop-

8.00 Tiny (79094855). 6.20 to plus 2 (48465189). 6.40 Greedysaurus (58094769). 6.45 Phibert (98026740), 6.50 Polica Dot Shorts (9804905), 7.00 Practical Parenting (3893672), 7.05 Professor Bubble (1968363), 7.30 Callou (6495127), 7.35 Bug Alert (9481721), 8.00 Barney (9408493), 8.25 Ba-

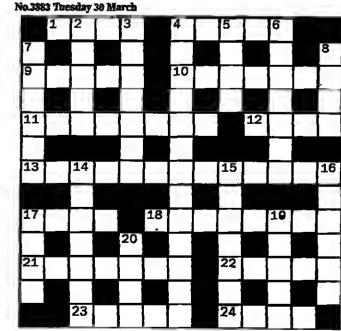
(4850th). 4.40 Through the Kayhole 59507547), 5.90 Heat is On (15206478). 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (9684479), 6.15 Jerry Springer (1998585). 7.05 Rescue 911 (4189010). 7.35 Animal Rescue (4474486). 8.00 LA Law (2938059), 9.00 Films Muder on the Iditarod Trail (2908818), 11.00 Spicy Sax Files (7967566), 12.00 Close. 9.00 Never So Few (1958) (63778082). 11.30 Mater Buddwing (1966) (49361082).

1.30 Our Mother's House (1967) (65401967). **3.30** Vengeence Valley (1951) (82954899). **5.00** Close). PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Jenny (4566). 7.30 Grace Under Fire (7905). 6.00 Elsn (3214). 8.30 Spin City (2721). 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (70924) 30 Whose Line is it Anywey? (47063). 10.00 Fresier (54824), 10.30 Cheers (73672, 11.00 Sehteld (82788), 11.30 Larry Sanders (27479), 12,00 Letterman (40290), 1,00 Taxi (58702), 1,30 Promine (62493). 2.00 Dr Katz (5885f), 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (77986), 3.00 Nightstand (45238), 3.30 Ab-bott & Costello (68238), 4.00 Close. GRANADA PLUS

6.00 Within These Walls (6151092), 7.00 Holding the Fort (5506289), 7.30 Odd Cou-ple (5655946), 8.00 Families (4748837), 8.30 Mind Your Language (437108) 2.00 Corona-tion Street (472180), 9.30 Emmerdale (1125834), 10.00 Upstairs, Downstairs (8451950), 11.00 Gentle Touch (405194), 12.00 Coronadon Street (4741824), 12.30 Emmerdale (1129450). 1.00 Mind Your Language (2127230). 1.30 Me and My Girl (1126721). 2.00 Upstairs, Downstairs (7879566). 3.00 Love Boet (2348011). 4.00 (2980726), 6.00 Emmerdale (2469547), 6.30 Shunters (4751301). #LOO As Granade Men & Motors (8036832), 2,00 Close,

## CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

Hurt (4) Pull away (5) Fertile place (5) 10 Arc of coloured light (7) 11 Laboratory requisite (4,4) 12 Image (4) 13 Parlour (9,4)

17 Cowl (4) 18 Supplement (8) 21 Sugar (7) 22 Plant life (5) 23 Instances (5) 24 Jaunty rhythm (4)

Reading problem (4,9) Iniquity (4) Smoking mixture (7) Physician (6) Aquatic bird (4) 14 Outdoor game (7) 15 Necessary (7) 16 Warm-blooded vertebrate

DOWN

Recesses (5)

Stamble (7)

17 Lofty (4) 19 Humorous (5) 20 Disagreeable person (4)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Seville, 5 Liens (Civilians), 8 Recur, 9 Pimento, 10 Dolphin, 11 Alibi, 13 Wicked, 14 Nomads, 17 Niger, 19 Limited, 22 Because, 23 Dumny, 24 Rhone, 25 Saluted, DOWN: 1 Shred, 2 Vocalie, 3 Larch, 4 Expand, 5 Limbago, 5 Emmi, 7 Stories, 12 Wine bar, 13 En route, 15 Attempt, 16 Pilera, 18 Gecko, 20 Model, 21 Dryad.

La man managa

1-1--

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(a two yet)

REC1 N RELAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6,30 Newsine 6.50 (127).

6.30 Newsine 6.90 (127).
BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 LONDON & SE excepts
12.30 Dotamen (92842769), 12.45 Tires
an Seunta (Enchanted Lands) (289501),
6.00 News (547), 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Westher (127), 10.00 Frontine Scotland (55653), 10.30 Killer in the Family
(467818), 11.20 Billy Connolly's World four
of Australia (149295), 12.00 The Word on
the Street (5794238), 12.15 Passover
(2615632), 12.35 Film: Weiting for the
Light (518783), 2.15 Joins BBC News 24
(94672325). BBC1 WALES

### REPORT WALES

As BBC1 LONDON & SE except:

8.30 Wales Yoday (127) 9.30 Week in Week Out (2272) 10.00 Jailords (55653) 10.30 Killer in the Family (45788) 11.20 Billy Connolly's World Tour of Australia (149295) 12.20 The World on the Street (5794238) 12.35 Passover (2815832) 12.35 Film: Waiting for the Ught (231122) 2.30 Joins BBC News 24 (5816325) AMOULA

As Cariton except: 12.20 Anglis News and Weather (7702818), 12.55

# Shortland Street (9463363), 1.30 Home and Away (35176030), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (7968914), 3.10 ITV News Headines (4206647), 3.15 Anglia News and Westher (4207816), 5.30 About Anglia News (943), 2.30 Out to Lunch with Brish Tumer (479), 11.20 Anglia News and Westher (826901), 11.30 The Thoughts of Chehmen All (30905), 12.00 Short Story Chema (1914), 1.00 Airwolf (4919509), 2.45 Deed Mants Tales (66677), 3.45 Netion-(1914), 1.00 Annoti (4373619), 2.45 Dead Ments Tales (66677), 3.15 Nation-wide Footbell Lague Extra (2695966); 4.00 Coach (41030122), 4.35 Soundtrax (35640946), 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (2772870)

CENTRAL
As Carthon except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (7702519, 12.55
Home and Away (4044672, 2.90 Heart of
the Country (5895214), 5.30 Shortland
Street (130), 6.00 Central News at Six
(943), 7.30 Thirty Minutes (479, 11.20
Central News and Weather (925301),
11.30 Renegade (23473), 4.05 Jobfinder
(1338433), 5.20 Asian Eye (3842702), HTV WALES MTV WALES
As Cartton excepts 10.30 This Morning (4407609, 12.15 HTV News and
Weether (455/450), 12.55 Shortland

MERENIAN
As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44076005, 12.35 Meridian News and Weether (4557450), 12.35 Shortland Street (9465363, 1.30 Home and Away (9576030), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (7989914), 3.30 ITV News Headines (4206547), 3.15 Meridian News and Weether (4200518), 5.00 Home and Away (9295) or (4207618) 5.00 Home and Away (5276). 5.26 Three Minutes (5416504). 5.30 Mon-ley Business (130). 6.00 Meridian Toright (943). 7.30 The Plain (479). 11.20 Meridian News and Weather (\$26301). 11.30

(66677). 3.15 Nationwide Football League Extra (669996), 4.90 Coach (4030122). 4.35 Soundirax (53640945). 4.45 ITV

As HTV Wales excepts 5.30 Cen You Keep a Secret? (130), 7.30 West Eye View (479).

Nightscreen (2772870).

MERIDIAN

cyberczie (30905). 12,00 Pier Pressura (1914)). 1,00 Akwolf (4313509). 2,45 Dead Marts Tales (56677). 3,55 Nafiorwide Foot-bad League Extra (6899996). 4,30 Coach (41030122). 4,35 Soundrax (33640948). 4,45 ITV Nightscreen (33653412). 5,00 Frasercan (06908).

WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.30 This Moning (44076106), 12.15 Westcountry News
(4507450, 12.27 Burmaetions (770837),
12.55 Westcountry Lunchtine Live
(4044572), 3.40 TrV News Headines
(4208547), 3.15 Westcountry News
(4207818), 5.30 Cur House (130), 6.00 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (2772870).

As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morning (44076108), 12.45 Calendar News and Weather (4557450), 12.55 Home and Away (4044672), 230 Coronation Street (56055214), 5.30 Tonight (130), 6.00 Calendar (130),

ender (943), 7.30 A Brush with Ashley (479), 11.20 Calendar News and Weather (986301), 11.30 Roar (23473), 4.43 Jobfinder (1334677).

As Yorkshire except: 12:15 North East News and Weather (4557450, 5.30 North East Toright (11176) 7.30 Cumbrien Tales (478), 11.20 North East News and As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Be-

witched (97529837). 12.30 Sesame Street (26346382). 100 Planed Plant (67390276). 1.30 The Three Stooges (37963969). 1.50 Film: Broken Arrow (78482769). 4.30 Ricki Lake (67631479). (78482769), 4.30 Ricki Lake (67631479). 5.00 Planed Plant: Uned 5 (90616905), 5.30 Countdown (57655059), 6.00 Newyddion (33984092), 6.30 Heno (86454295), 7.30 Newyddion (67632108), 8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (90612789), 8.30 Pen-gell (90824924), 9.00 Tair Chwaer (57876030), 10.00 Brookside (7281382), 10.35 Curer te Folk (52709275), 1145 \$7876130, 10,000 erookside (7281832), 10,35 Cuser as Fok (\$270629), 11,15 The 11 O'Clock Show (28701295), 11,50 Smack the Pony (\$2701059), 12,20 The \$1000 of \$2016140 Yard (\$0364698), 1,20 Fusion (\$2953870), 1,50 Close,

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS Street (9463365), 1.30 Home and Away (35176030), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (7369914), 3.30 HV News Headines (4208547), 3.35 HTV News (4207819), 5.30 Night Owls (130), 6.00 HTV News (943), 7.30 High Performence (475), 11.20 HTV News and Weather (926301), 11.30 Penegatie (23473), 1.00 Airwolf (4318505), 2.45 Dead Maris Tales (45677), 3.55 Neithnurfus Encited (1 carried

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# ROBERT

TELEVISION REVIEW HANKS



right "tone" for chamber episode ended with I and Kavanagh fly-fishin congratulating one anot their decency. Do we so merest whilf of conser

BBC

sj Westher (1) (547).

Hospital. Toright's programme looks at e thas been struck down by a mystery lifnees subject chinchillas (5) (T) (7082).

Regional News; Weather (T) (9295).

9.30 Jellbirde. Documentery series that studies the claustrophobic intensity of life behind bare at a Yorkshire prison for women (S) (T) (92672).

11.30 The Word on the Street. The Bishop of Liverpool investigates unemployment (S) (428108). IO.50 Billy Connolly's World Tour of Austrelia. The Big Yawn hits Queensland (R) (S) (7) (381295).

12.10 Sirds with Tony Soper (R) (S) (5720618). 12.30 Working Lunch (70450). 1.00 Oakle Doke (86404180). 1.10 The Leisure Hour (S) (2467189). 2.10 Sporting Greats (S) (58928160). 2.40 News; Regional News; Weether (T) (3772450). 2.45 Weetminster (4159824). 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (4208276). 3.30 The Village (R) (9956108). 3.55 Keye (8984127). 4.25 Ready, Steedy, Cook (S) (T) (6843672). 4.55 Eather (S) (T) (5628653). 5.30 Whose House? (S) (276).

6.30 Your Money or Your Life. A ecap offers finencial advice to a couple oon bacoming self-sufficient (5) (7) (4758).

9.00 Steptoe end Son. A geme of Sorebble and e visit from the vicar inspire Albert and Harold to take up journalism (R) (T) (7837).

11.15 Sein1eld. George debates whether to tell hie girlfriend lhet he lovee her (S) (T) (482671).

11.35 Gein1eld. Jerry end George are accused of conspirint to injure Bette Midler (S) (T) (803011).

LL**LER IN THE FAMILY** (10pm 6BC1, *right*) Whet's it like to the father of Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper *(right)*, o

CRIME PROGRAMME OF THE DAY

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DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

THE SIEGE OF SCOTLAND YARD (Sp. Paul Condon (right) should resign after all enough to welcome a fly-on-the-wall came pm C4) Maybe Sir
ill, Anybody stupid
lera team during one
ard's recent history—
in the Stephen
onable judgement.
cennera teem, more
bled hvief ruther than
spected ed an absorbing ut of a hole.

[][M] Shipwrecki (Slewart Raffif 1976 US). Children's drame ebout a family that geta shipwrecked off the coest of Alaska. Robert Logan plays papa (S) (T) (59201837).

Fresh Prince of Bei Air. Will and Carlion get themselves into trouble when a precitcel loke ends up with Geoffrey losing his job (R) (S) (T) (248666).

The House Detectives. The teem investigate the history of Trinity Church Square, an incongruous aquare of Georgian townhouses in south London (R) (S) (5834).

12.00 Oespetch Box (22615). 12.30 Open University: Fre Body Diagrame (76306). 1.00 Diagrame (16783). 1.30 Seneing Intelligence (40238). 2.00 Schoole: GCSE Biteeize – English 3 (36677). 4.00 Languages: Españo Viva 5 & 6 (23401). 5.00 Career Moves: Gerdening an

BBC2

dele. Zak triee to eabotage Mandy's marriage life Kelly and her bothersome elepbrother, Scott, blows. My money's on Kelly (S) (T) (6740). itton. "Mother Unknown". Investigating pene to all the bables that get abendoned (5) (479).

I. "Weekeride Are for Wimpe": Conway cancele ell to cover for e sick Meadows. But when a nan surfaces and Meadows magically recovers oase is It? (T) (2011).

rectice. More from those Derbyehire doos. A at The Beaches leads Andrew to a policeman ding a serious ilineas (S) (T) (9547).

iul You, Lese than wonderful This Life/Cold Id. Henry's luck seems to be changing, with a end end a record deal (how likely ia that? heard his music?). Meanwhile, Marshell decision about Cleire, but is it too late?

10.30 Queor as Folk. Stuart and Marie visit their perents, end Vince introducee Cameron to his mother (T) (716504).

11.10 The 11 O'Clock Show (T) (237824).

12.15 Witness. The work of missioneries in Ugende, Grezil, USA and South Africe (R) (T) (82714). ; An A to Z of Wegner (8540344). 2.20 Tennhäuser (R) (S) (T) (22280257). 5.40 The Pink Panther (3264670). To 5.55am.

wa Headlines (T) (5599566).

**3.20 Children's ITV:** Mopatop's Shop (4211011), **3.30** Rosie end Jim (B) (827824), **3.40** The Womblee (S) (925180), **3.55** Cow and Chieken (S) (T) (9274011), **4.40** Snep (B) (T) (6623618), **4.40** How II (S) (T) (6040063).

and Away (S) (T) (3276).

5.00 Homa

Tonight. Regional news updete for the nd the South-East (T) (948).

ning News) Weather (1) (295).

6.30 Clausic British Core. Recalling the bettle for market eupremacy during the 1850e between Vauxhall end Ford (neither of them "Gritish oars" ee euch, but never mind) end how they ettempted to out-style each other (9837).

6.00 (Ci))[A] The Siege of Sootland Yard.
Pascineting fly-on-the-spin-doctor account of how Scotland Yard mershalled its response to the ard mershalled its response to the or report on the Stephen Lawrence murder. nentary of the Dey, below (T) (7189).

10.00 Father Tod. Bishop Brannen is due to arrive to investigate e case of suspected nude elsepwalking by Fether Jack. How we leughed (R) (S) (T) (48383).

11.45 Fusion. Two Greek-Cypriot brothers in Great Yarmouth ponder the decline in the tourist trade (T) (855295).

ght Verdicts. Courtroom drama series from s, with forn Contl (23473).

itly News; Weather (1) (612112).

fonight (1) (926301).

unted Flahtank (85832), 1.00 Highlander
9). 1.55 Judge Judy (S) (7694493), 2.20 Wish
9). 1.65 Flahtank (Republished), (S. 100 Highlander)
10) (S. 10) (S.

Carlton

1a (S) (T) (8454214). 10.30 This Morning (T) 2585). 12.20 Your Shout (7702816). 12.30 (TV nilme News; Weather (T) (4036653). 12.56 London (T) (4044672). 1.25 The Jarry Springer Show (S) 616566). 2.10 Home and Away (S) (T) (58955214). Wheel of Fortune (S) (T) (527522).

itu1f..Rowland Rivron and Wendy Douglas their whecky enterteinment guide (S) (130).

6.30 Home improvement. Jill is disgusted by the filtatiousness of a door-to-door ealeswomen (682647).

7.00 Channel 4 News, including sport end weeth (T) (598011).

7.55 Oovetelts. Paul Berry, aged 22 and e staunch Unionist, is the youngast elected member of the new Northern Ireland Assembly, Here, briefly, is his story (40301).

8.00 Brooksids. Jimmy tells Jackle that he forged his degree certificate to become a teacher (T) (3030).

Channel

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S

6.00 CHOINE Words and Music (Norman Taurog 1948 US). All-star MGM biopic of songwriters Rodgere end Hart. See Film of the Day, below (1) (91635108). **6.00 Seame Street** (R) (30566). **7.00** The Big Greakfast (76285).

11.15 Lost Animale (3841943), 11.30 Powerhouse (3498), 12.00 Seseme Street (T) (47634), 12.30 Bewitched (R) (S) (T) (72818), 1.00 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (79382),

00 5 News and Sport (S) (6854130), 7.00 WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (8498943), 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2928769), 7.35 Dappledown Farm (R) (4907498), 6.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks (R) (2113721), 8.30 Witchworld (2112082), 6.00 Inetant Gardens (S) (T) (9416419), 9.25 Russell Grent's Postcarde (4772740), 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (R) (7596529), 10.20 Surset Beach (3969382), 1140 Leeza (S) (5410491), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (2123108), 12.30 Femily Affaire (S) (T) (894030), 1.30 The Roseanne Show (S) (158330f), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (9472030), 2.30 Good Alternoon (S) (1087818),

1.30 IIIM The Student Prince (Richard Thorpe 1954 US). Merio Lanza was elreedy busing the bathroom ecales by 1854 (hie weight problems would eventually help to kill him five years later), and only his voice was used in this jolly, harmless rendition of Sigmund Romberg's famous operetta. The troubled Lanza walked out during filming, and his piece as the prince who falls for barmeid Ann 6lyth was teken by British leading man Edmund Purdom (1) (91214).

3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (301). 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (108). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3505030). 4.55 Rickl Leke (T) (5613721). 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (872). 5.30 **5.20 5 News** (S) (86096009), **5.25** Auseell Grants Posicerda (91943950). 3.30 EIIM Home Fires Burning (Genn Jordan 1989 US). Bit Puliman pleys a solder who returns from Europe after the Second World War to discover that his faither is having an affair and his mother hae hit the botta. Melodrama wrapped in nostalgia, but moderately well done (T) (7241635).

6.00 King of the Hill. Animated rednecks. Henk attempts to lend e big contract by enterteining e potential client (R) (S) (T) (685). 6.00 5 News, Including First on Five. Kirely Young explains the war in Kosovo (S) (T) (271601),

100 Per Cent. The 500th edition, like we care (S) (2726498).

5.30 Family Attairs: Cilve is shocked when he runa into a "blast from the past" (S) (T) (2707363).

7.00 Knight Rider. An episode written by Steven de Souza, who scripted the first two Die Hard films. You have to start eomewhere (9450818).

Neture of Oz. How the fox was brought to Australia for hunting purposes (which rather scuppers tha pro-hunt argument about peet control) and how it has become a threat to indigenous wildlife (S) (T) (2703547).

8.00 Crime Report. John Taylor presents investigative reports on topical crimes and issues in British Justice (8469566).

9.00 Lilling Degboye (Ken Russell 1997 US). Bryen Brown le the sort of fun-loving prison guard who enjoya tracking prisoners with killer dogs in this fer-fetched piece of noneense directed for television by Ken Ruesell. Deen Cain (of The New Adventures of Superman fame) is also involved, as is Tie Cerrere as an assistant DA who suspecta all might not be well in the big house (1) (81671585). The Beat of What's the Story. Reports on Birmingham's Northern Relief Road and a Cheltenham estate with problem children ere among the selected highlights from the past two years (947/301).

twin (S) (4327837).

11.45 Live and Dengerous (S) (6287672), 12.25 Live and Dangerous (S) (71861987), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (8188677). To 6em

THEINISION GUIDE IT GERARD GILBERT



FILM OF THE DAY

woros and music (9em C4, nghl) You'll probably heve to set the videu to catch this MGM biopic of songwriters Hodgers and Hnrt - but that is probably the best way to enjoy it, anyway. You can then fast-forward when nu-oov is either singing or dancing, because the script makes you cringe and the easting 'Tom Drake as Rodgers and Mickey Rooney es Hart is the other side of loopy. The rest fairly zings, however, with Gene Kelly huoling along to Slaughter an Tenth Avenue, Lena Horne singing The Lady is a Trantp, Judy Garland's electric rendition of Johnny One Note, and June Allyson's



SVC9.2M63.R3.R2 SNBRISM44R34

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